

Series:
Early Modern Embroidery and Lace Pattern Books



Developed by Helen Hough

James G. Collins & Associates
2019

Hough, Helen

In the Style of Domenico da Sera

James G. Collins & Associates, Arlington, Texas, 2019

Series: Early Modern Embroidery and Lace Pattern Books

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I suggest myself, since these publications take many, many hours and considerable effort for which I am not otherwise being reimbursed. There is a Patreon.org account for this purpose,

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The *Antique Pattern Library* project is an excellent opportunity to support access to publications similar to this one. This service provides scans of craft pattern publications that are in the public domain. Many are edited for modern craftworkers and their technologies, <http://www.antiquepatternlibrary.org/index.htm>

Good Shepard Services in New York City provides supports to vulnerable children and families. As an organization that grew out of the mission of a religious order, it seems an appropriate reflection of the various uses of needlework books during through the early modern age, <https://goodshepherds.org/>

Donations to your *local library* or a *community college scholarship* fund are valuable local investments.

Consider also *Archive.org* as it helps makes many resources available to all of us.

I would be surprised if any person or organization returns even a nominal donation. -HH

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In the Style of Domenico da Sera

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Introduction

Domenico da Sera is rather interesting for a creator of books in his time, the first half of the 1500s. As far as we know, he was born in Toulouse, a city which is now in France, under the name Dominique Celle, but was reported to have traveled to Spain and various cities now in Italy. His designs were published from at least 1531 (perhaps as early as 1515) in Lyon and later in Venice by Pagano. As late as the 1580s, many of the designs were published again by printers in Paris. Given the complications of travel in the 16th century, these experiences are notably unique for a scholar, artist, designer, book creator. Some readers may be able to perceive a variety of cultural influences in his work by examining in the handful of embroidery and lace pattern books mentioned here.

The focus of this book, though, is an anonymous publication, *Livre de modèles pour broderie et tapisserie*, in the collections of the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BNF). The book is composed of 41 pages of woodcut designs for embroidery or guides for tapestry and owned in the 1700 by the duc La Vallière. There is no title page nor any print or written device that can provide clues to its origins. As a result of the lack of textual identifying information within the book, the BNF can only provide a descriptive title and an approximate time frame of its creation, the 1500s. The National Library of France uses a title derived from the title in the Duke's 1783 library catalog, *Livre de figures ponctuées, contenant plusieurs desseins pour apprendre à marquer le linge, à faire de la broderie & et de la tapisserie*, or roughly translated into English, *Book of charted figures, containing several designs to learn to mark linen, to do embroidery & tapestry*.

The images in *Livre de modèles...* are woodcuts, the paper of a time appropriate for these woodcuts, and the designs very, very similar to the work of Sera. Thumbnails images and references to Sera's greater body of work are provided here so any person interested in the comparisons can personally investigate the overt similarities and differences. I propose that the repeat designs in the anonymous book are early works by Sera or inspired by his early patterns. During the 16th century, charted designs in pattern books progressed from regular to complex geometric forms and then to elaborate designs that wove in images of plants and animals. The repeats in *Livre de modèles...* are relatively simple geometric embroidery designs that are most like those printed in the earlier part of the century.

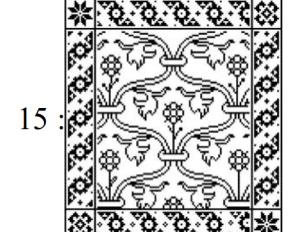
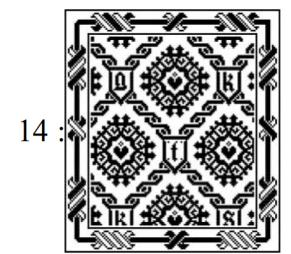
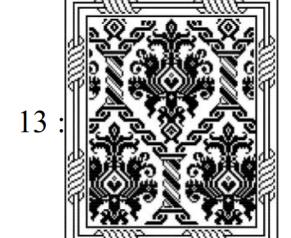
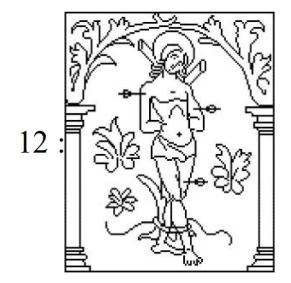
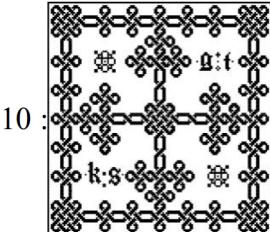
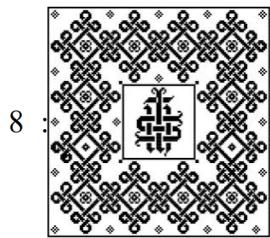
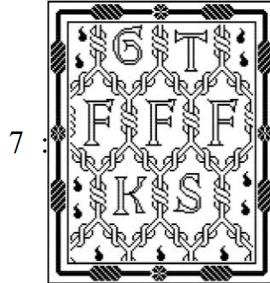
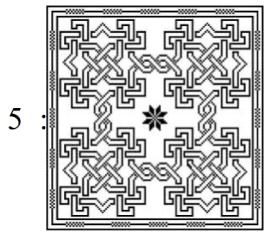
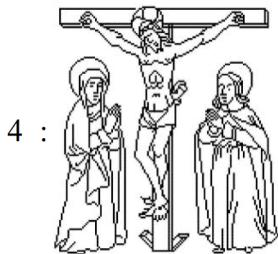
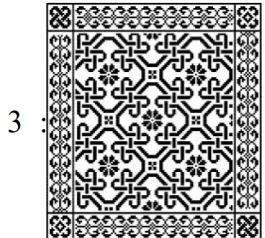
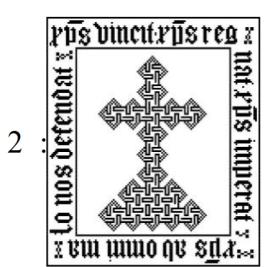
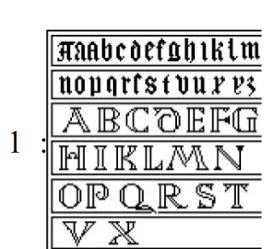
Livre de modèles... includes both repeat designs and patterns with human forms posed in religious or mythological settings. There are also a few plates with mythological creatures, for example, a cockatrice. The embroidery images similar but not identical to Sera's known works and are obviously not printed from the same plates. The other known works by Sera do not have human forms so those plates may or may not have devised by him and may be an inclusion from another gifted designer. Still, with some knowledge of 16th century embroidery pattern books and familiarity with Sera's contributions, it can be easy call this volume in France, "**In the Style of Domenico da Sera**".

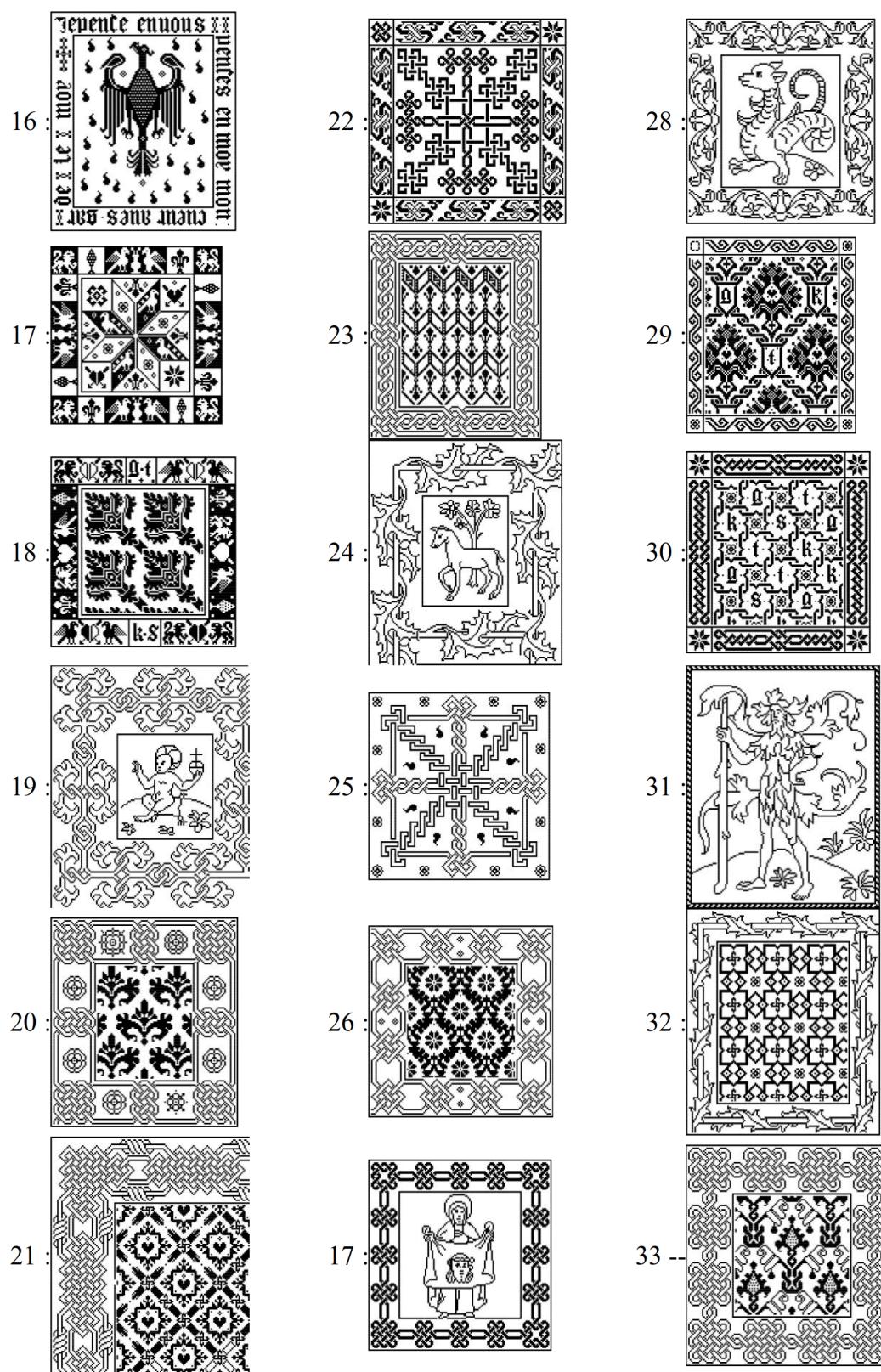
[*Livre de modèles pour broderie et tapisserie*]. [no place of publication: no publisher]. [1500s].

References: Courboin, 2021; Crapelet, 1822, tome III, p. 79; Vallière, 2148

Library: Bibliothèque nationale de France, <https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b10548024n>

Livre de modèles pour broderie et tapisserie Thumbnails





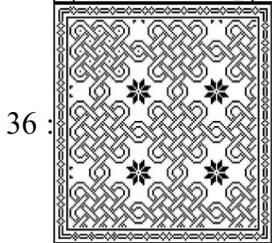
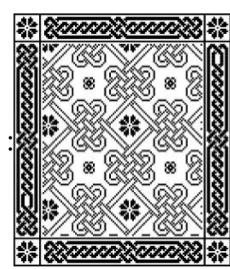
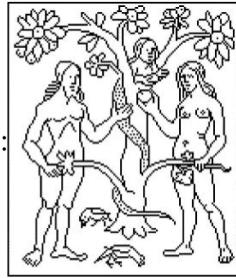
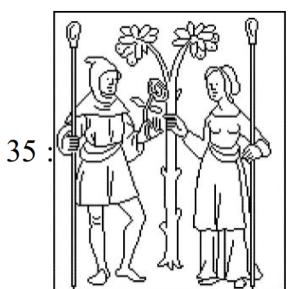
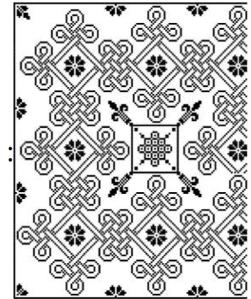
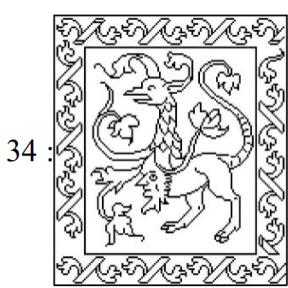


Plate 1

Plate 1

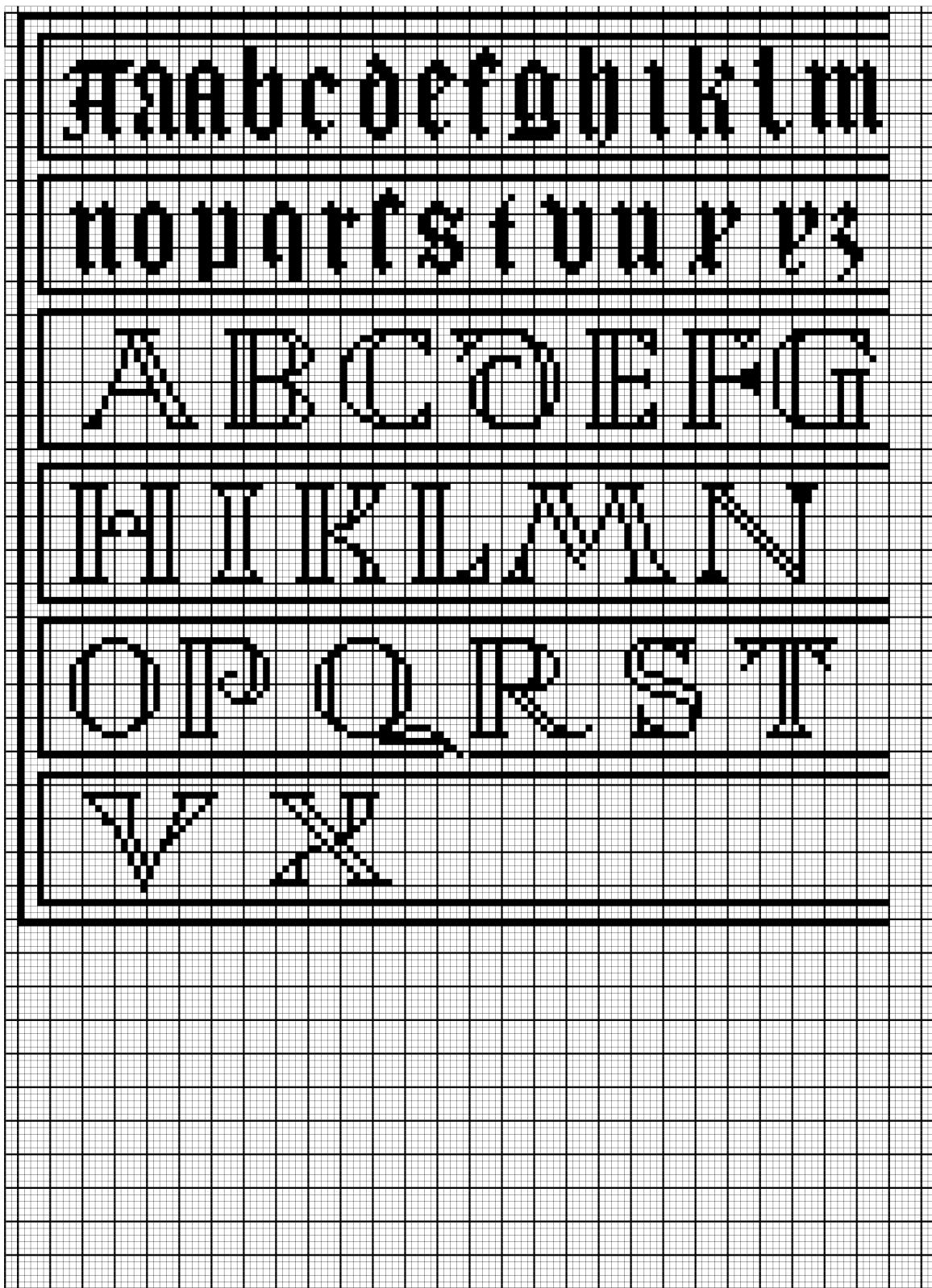


Plate 2

Plate 2



Plate 3

Plate 3

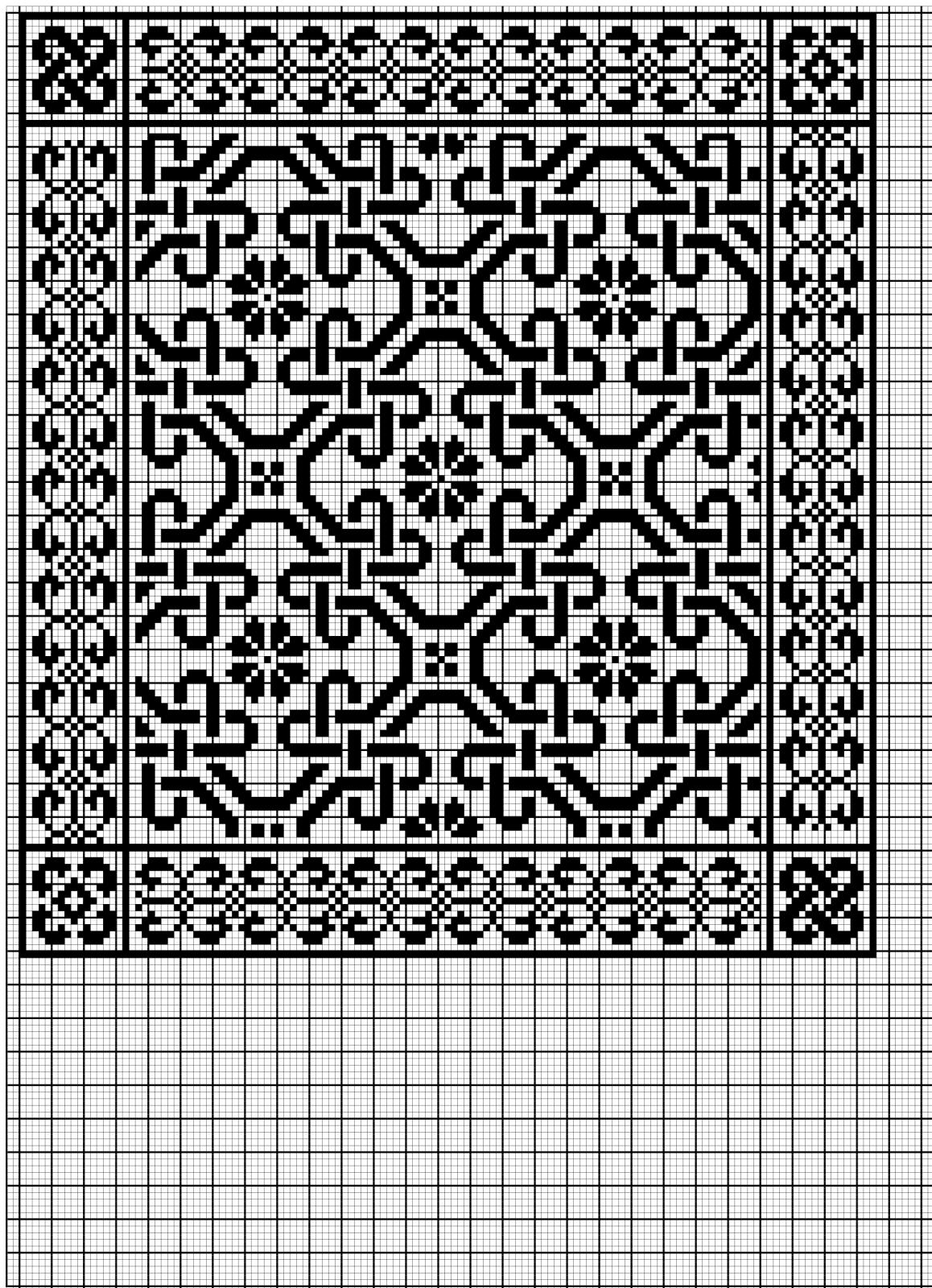


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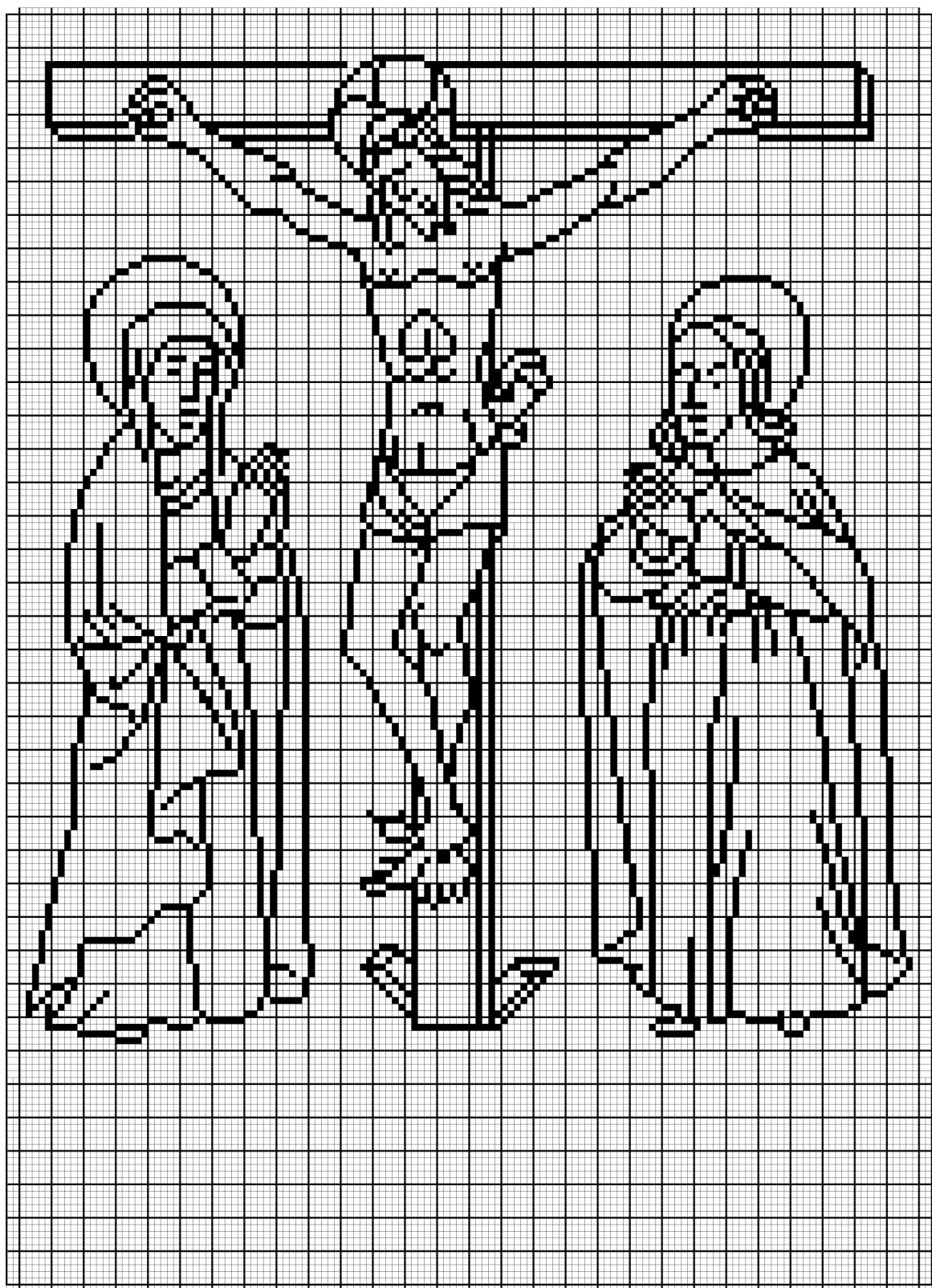


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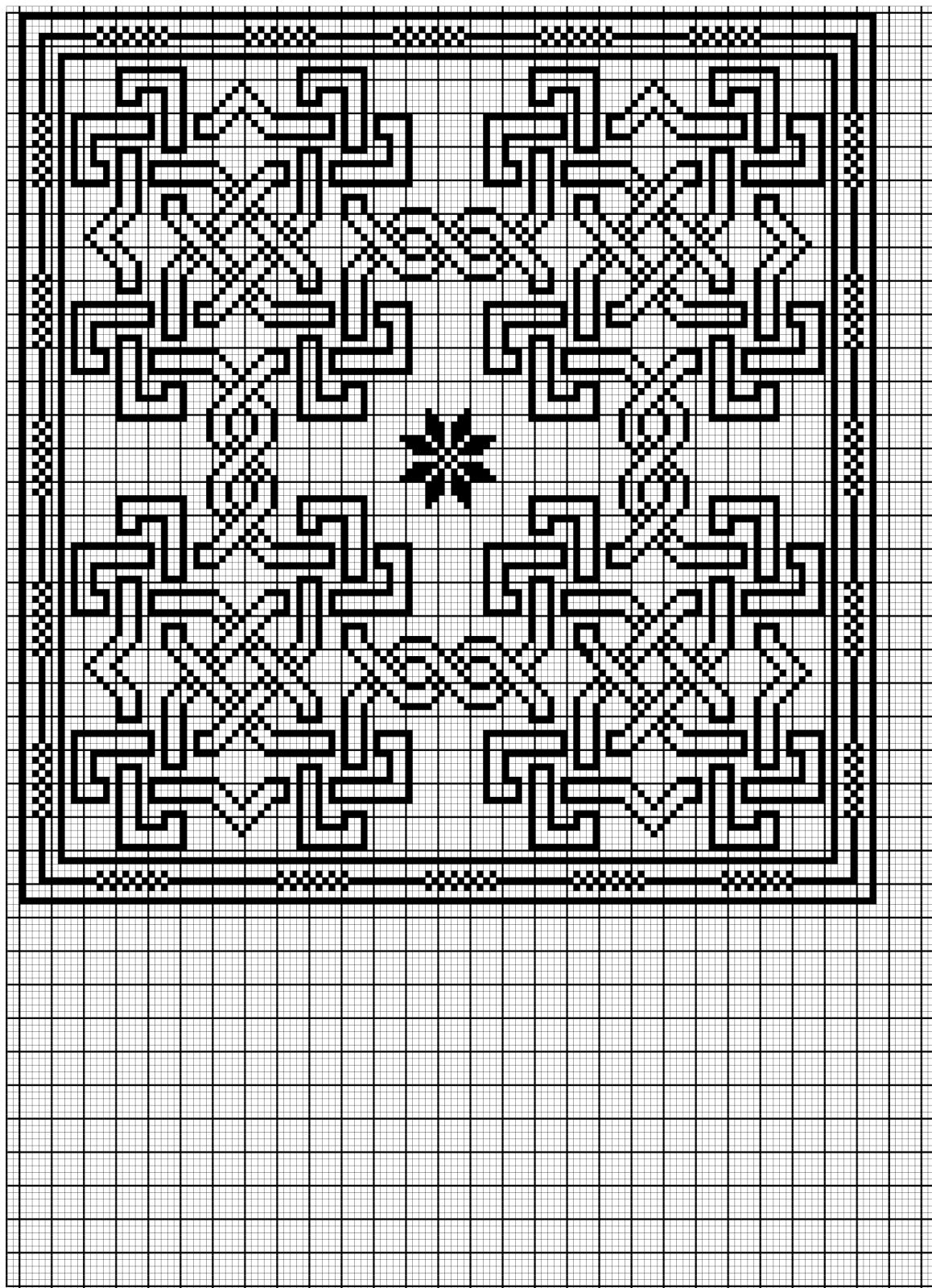


Plate 6

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Plate 7

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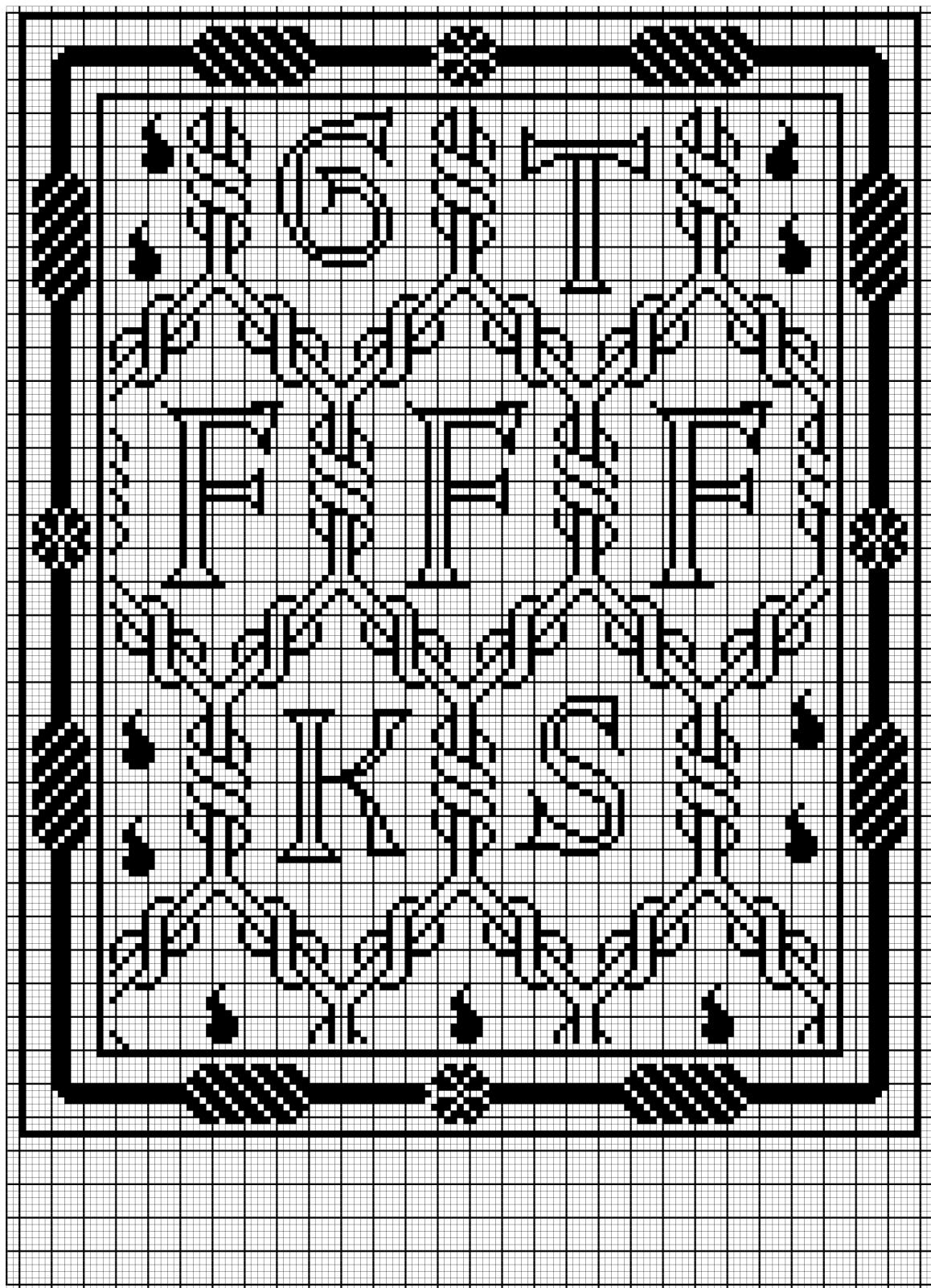


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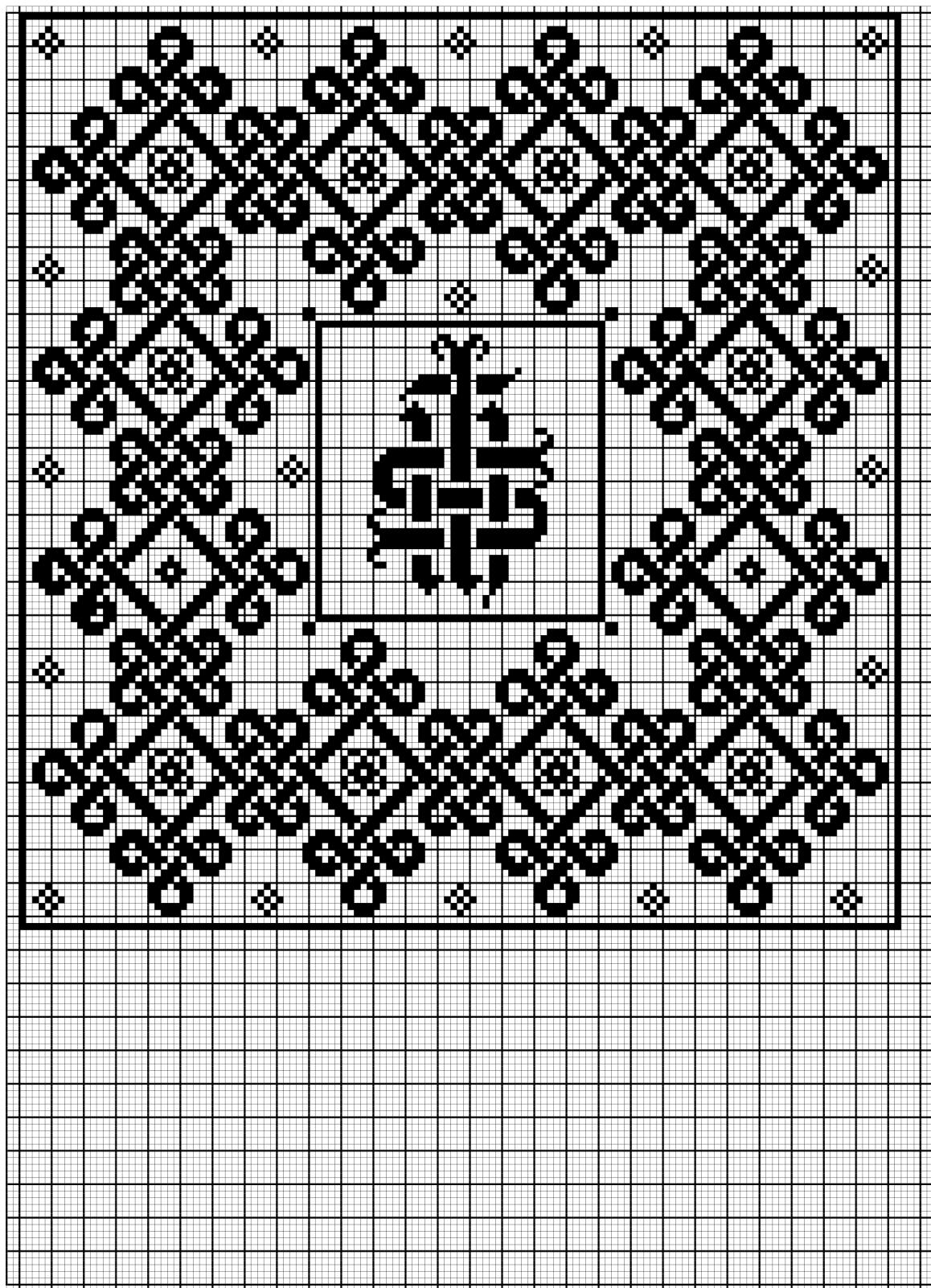


Plate 9

Plate 9

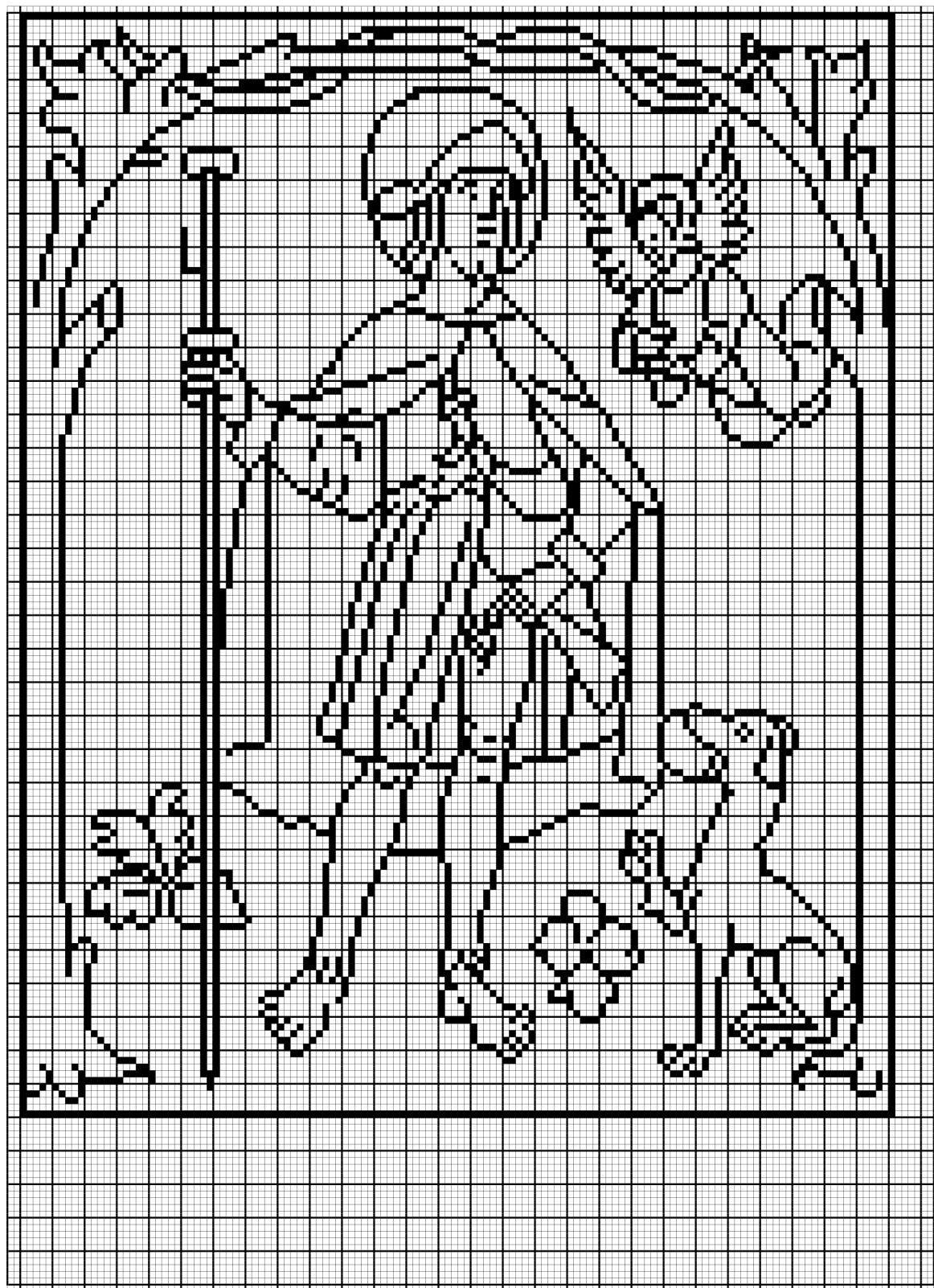


Plate 10

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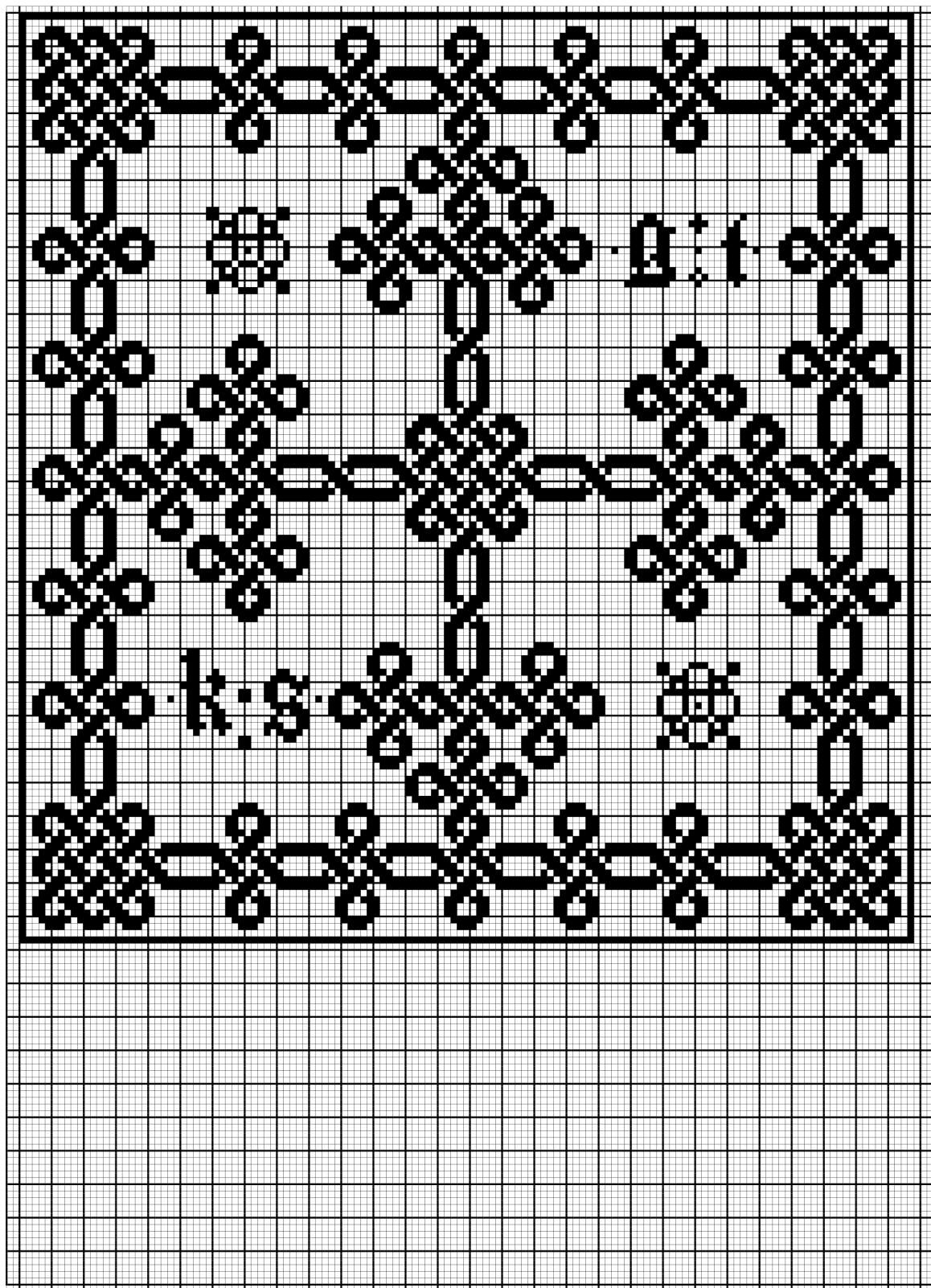


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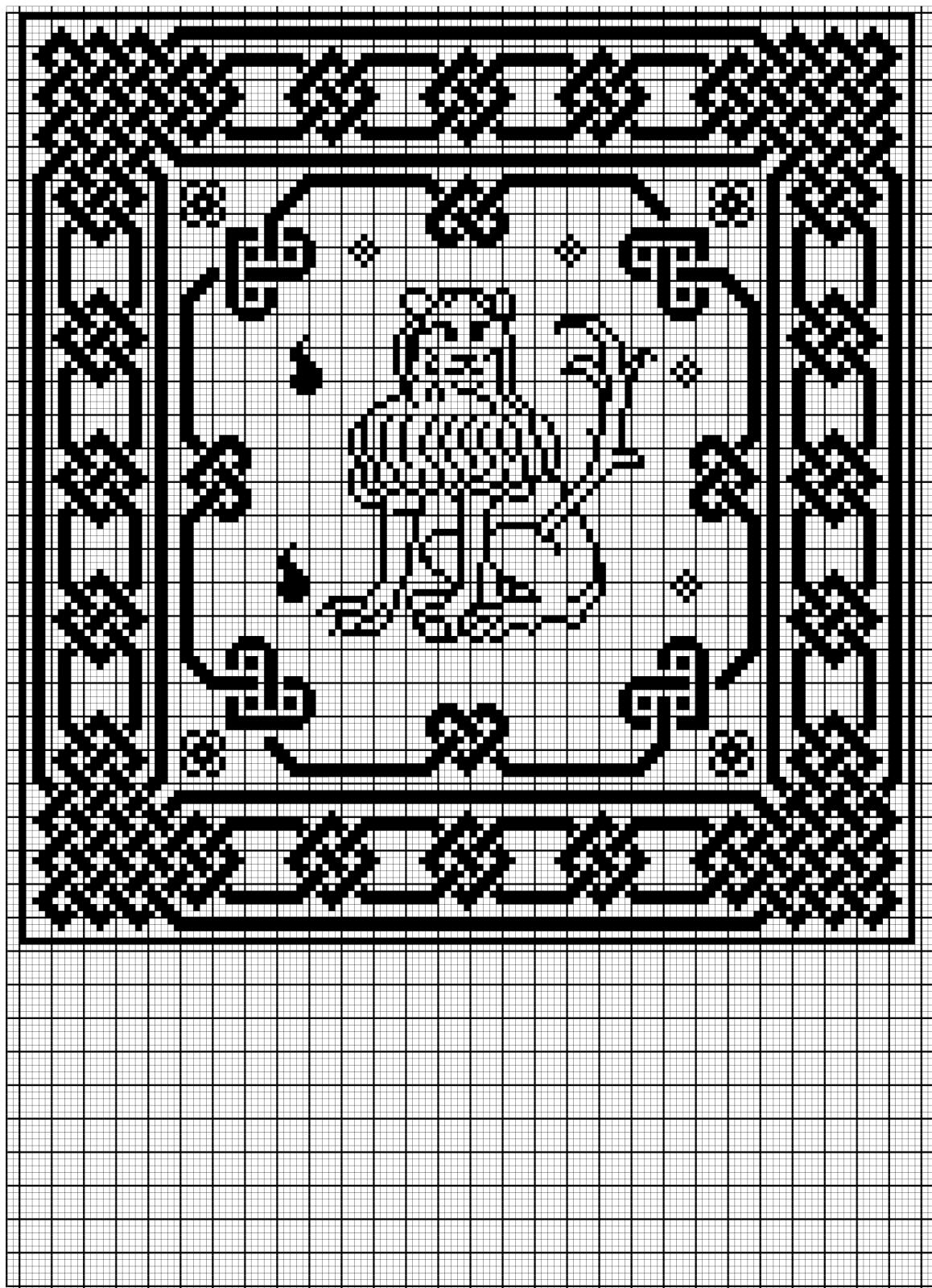


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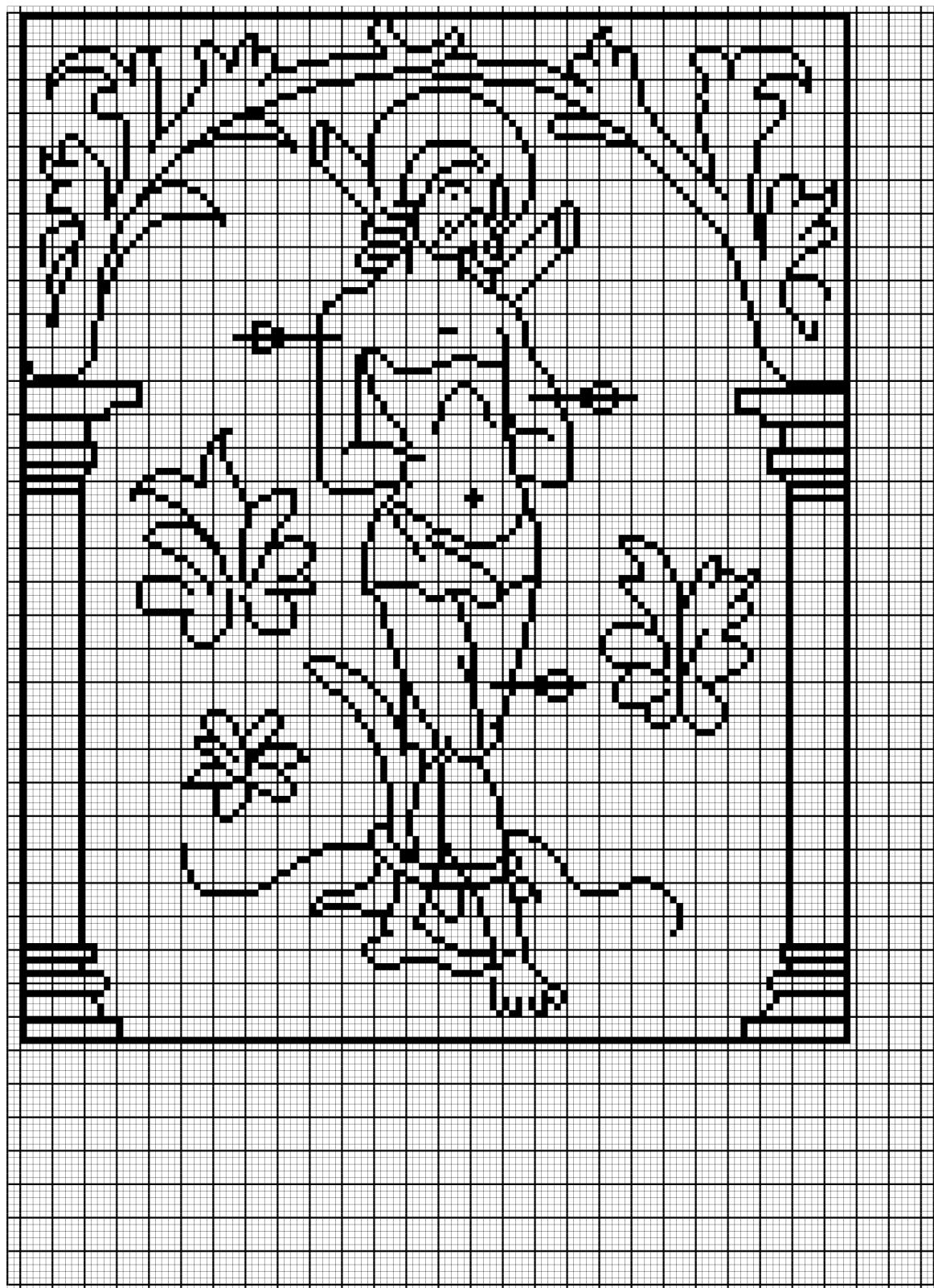


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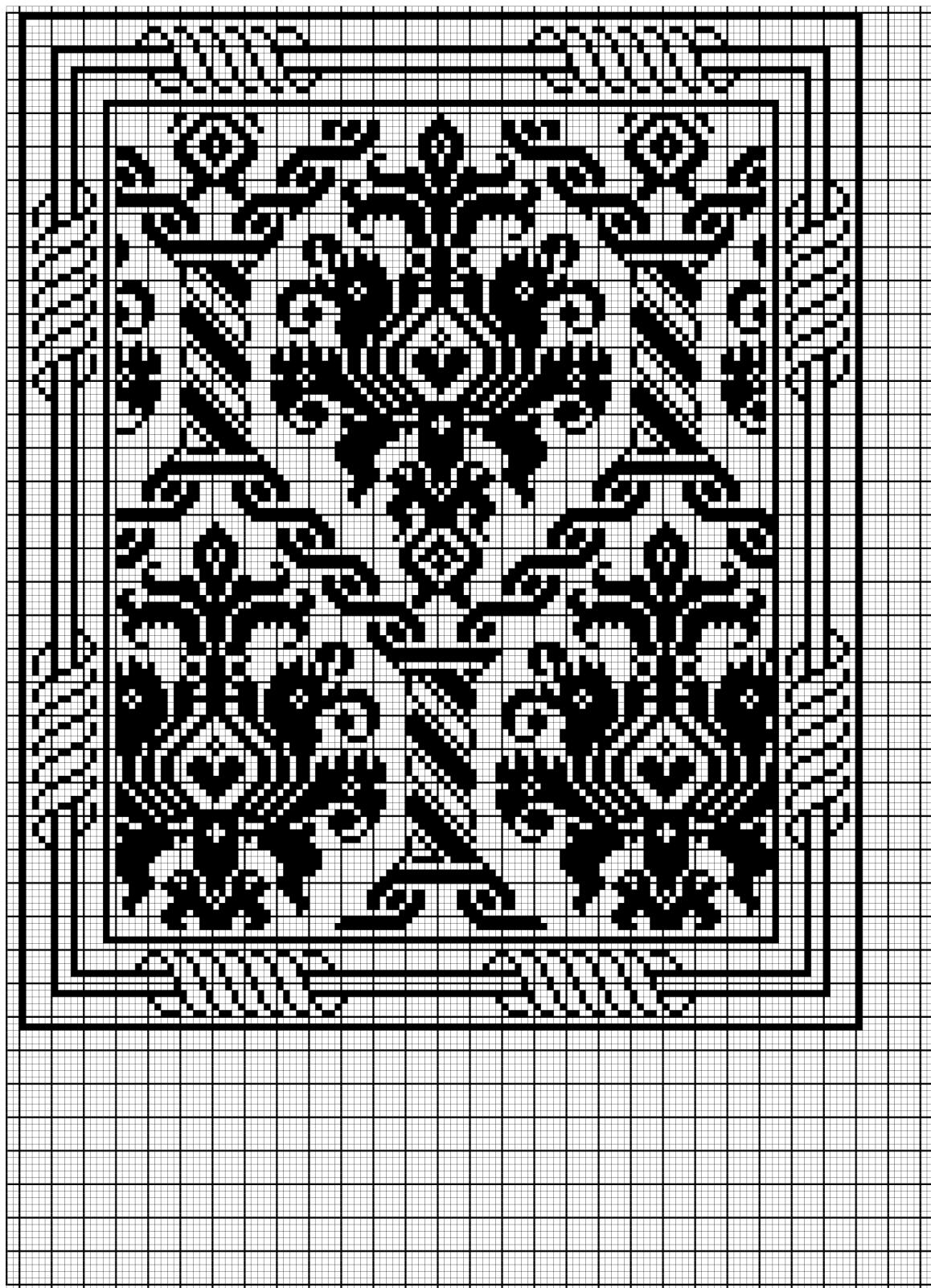


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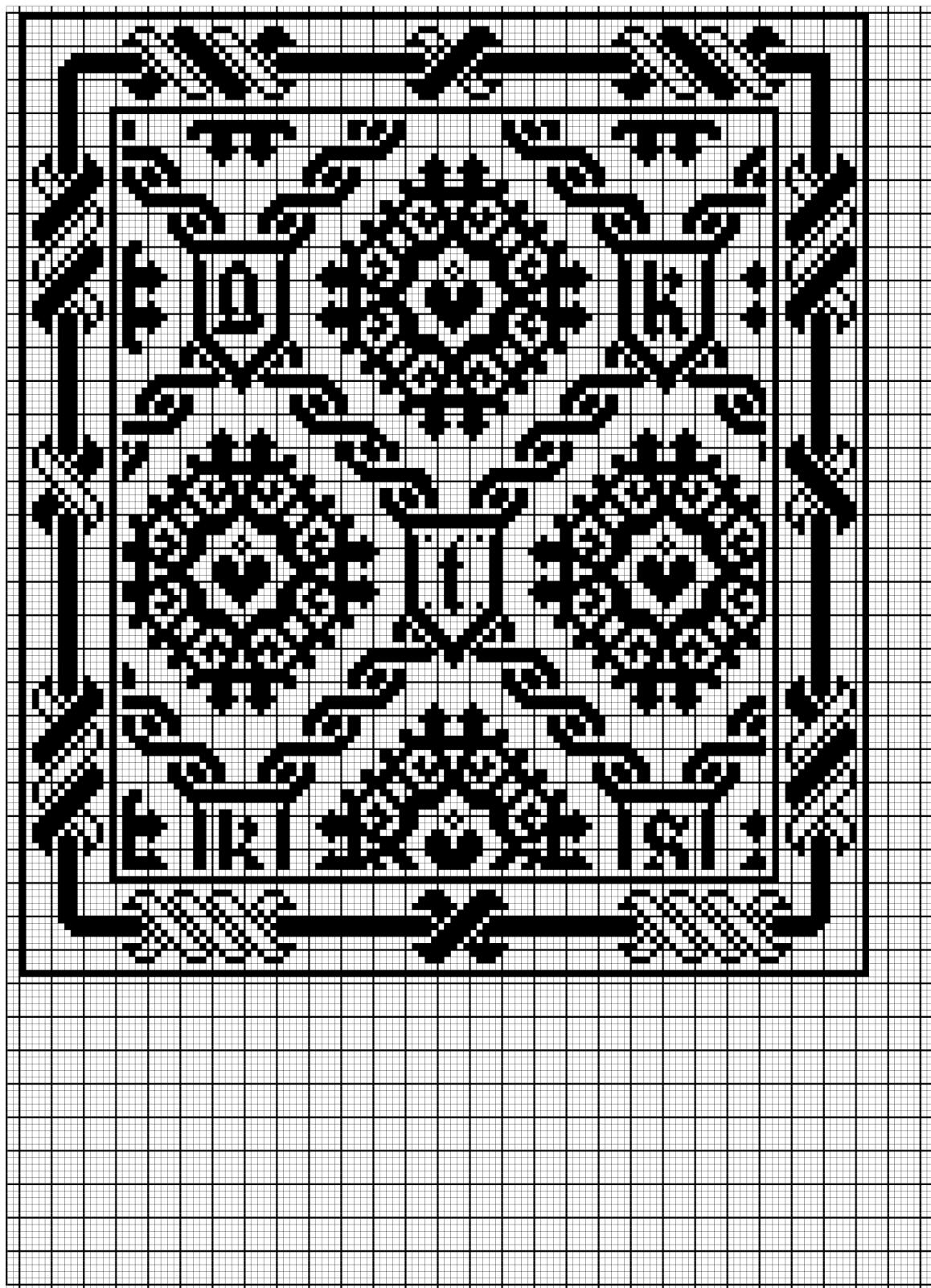


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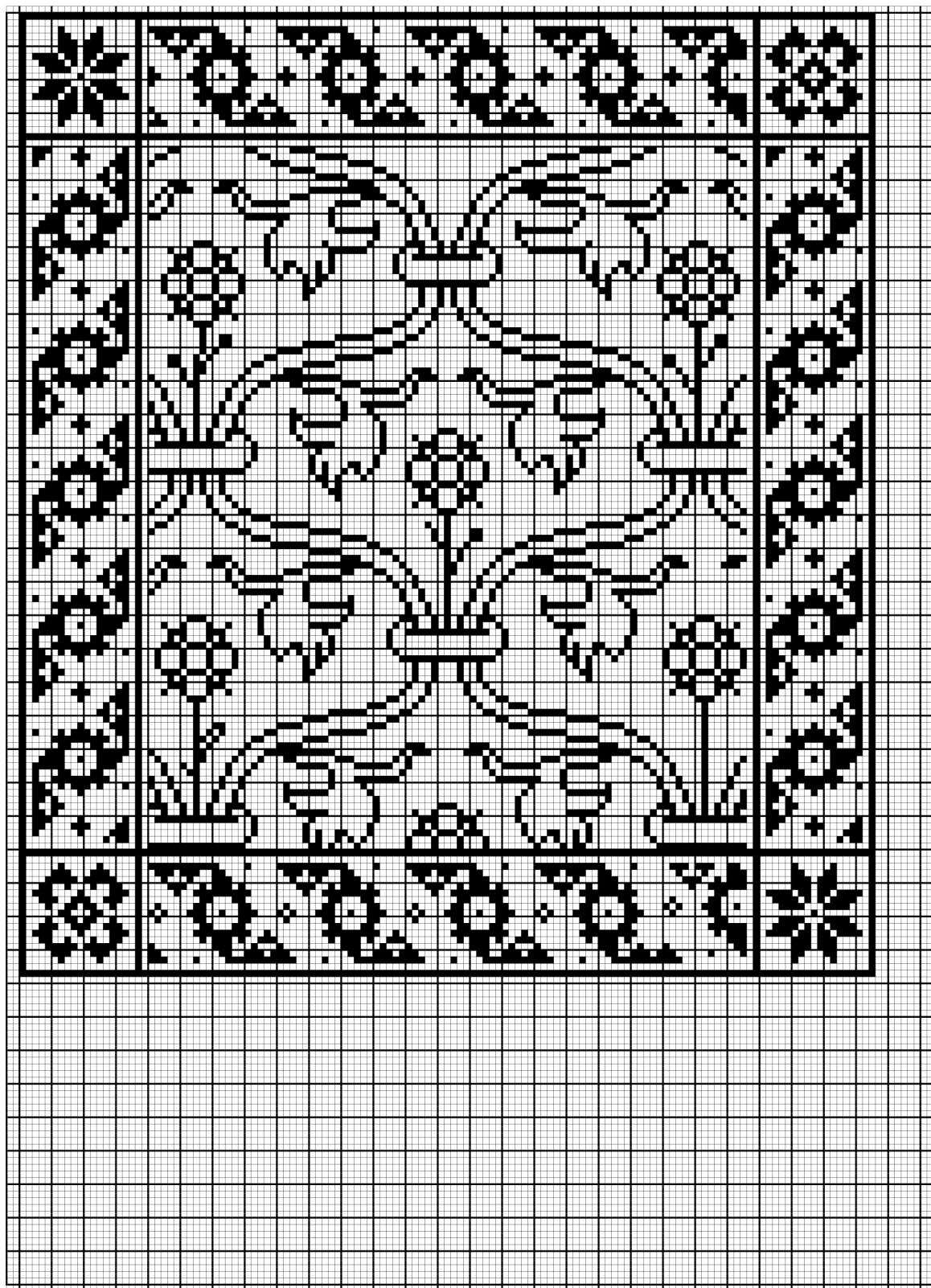


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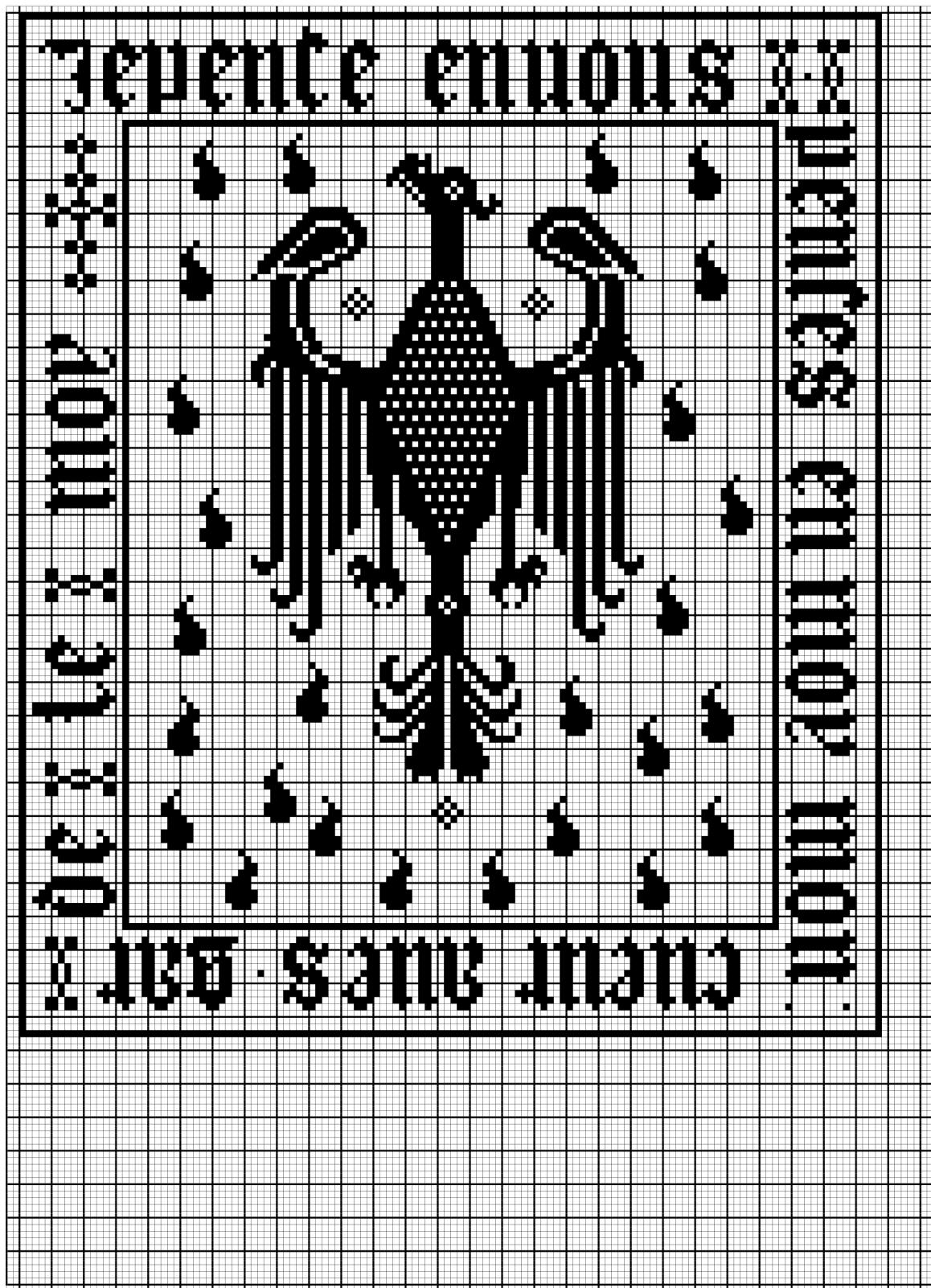


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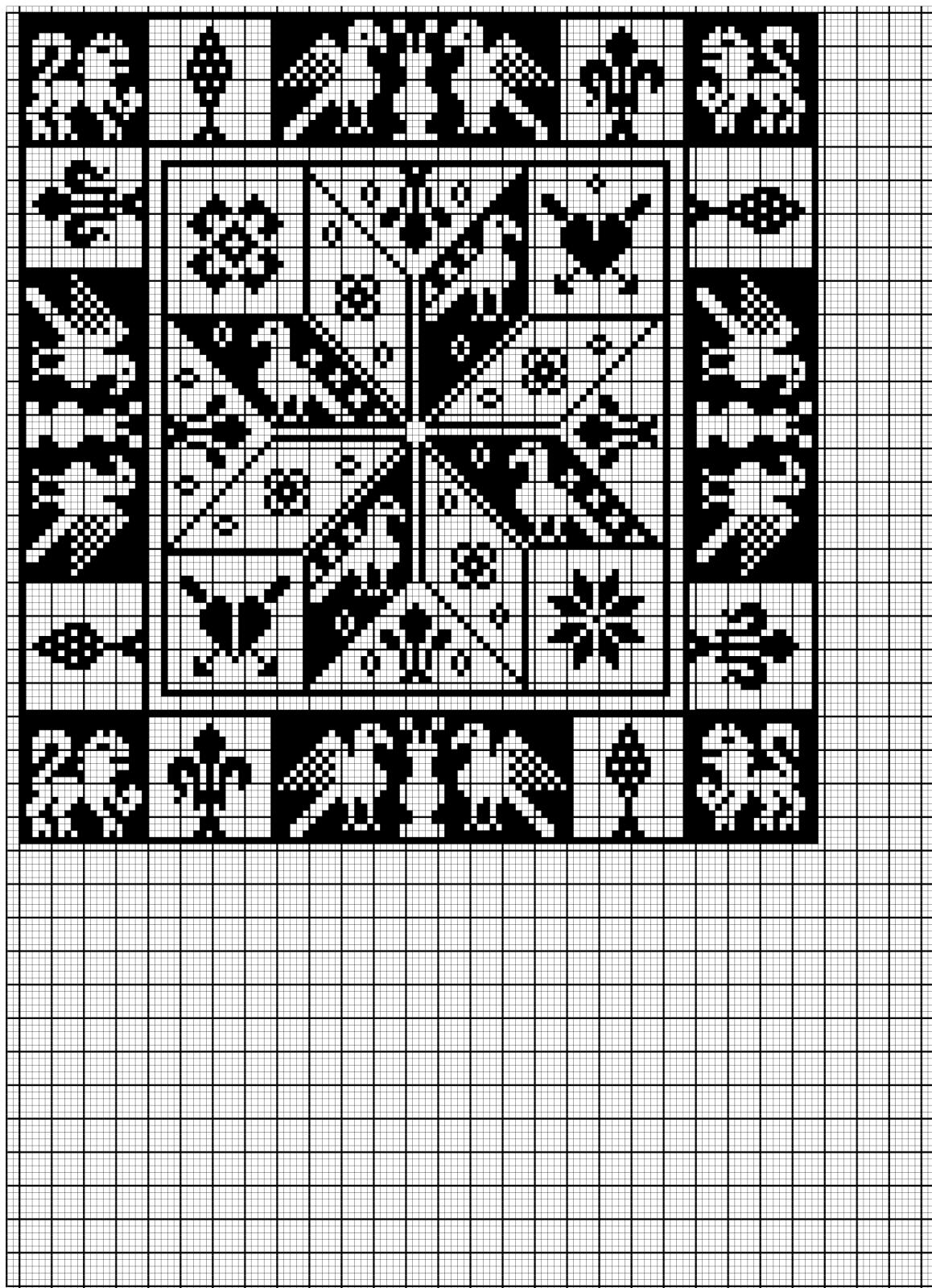


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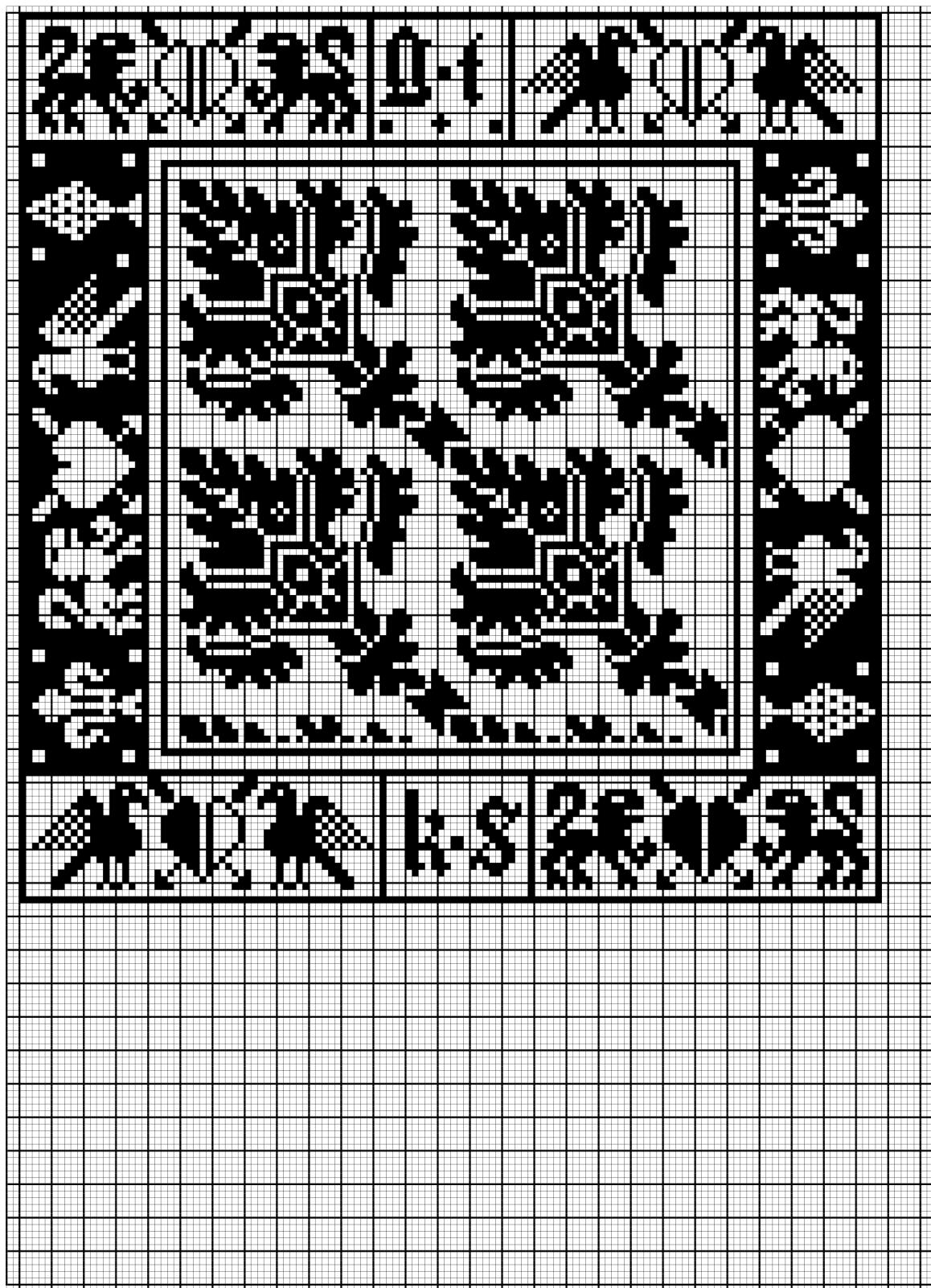


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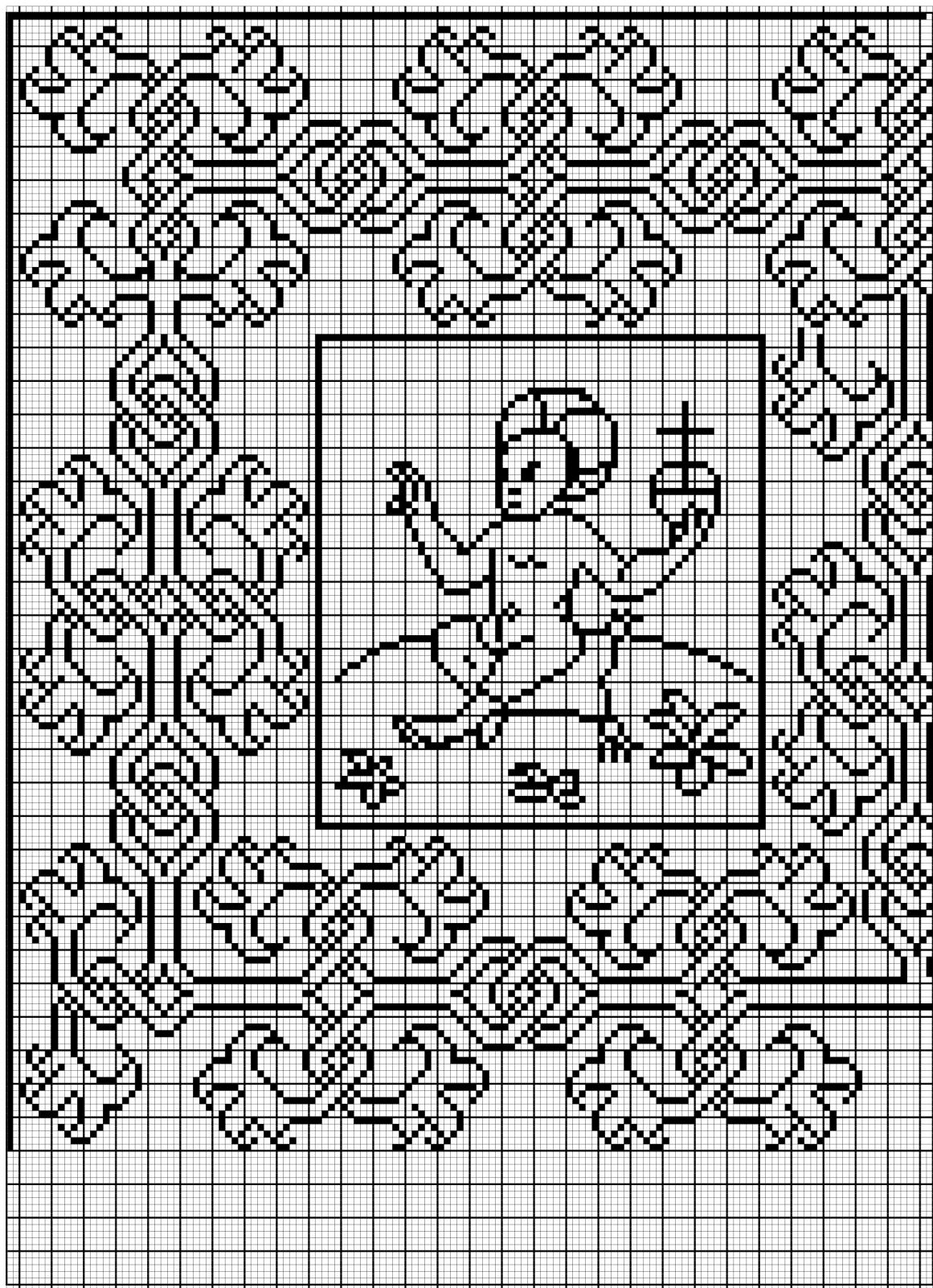


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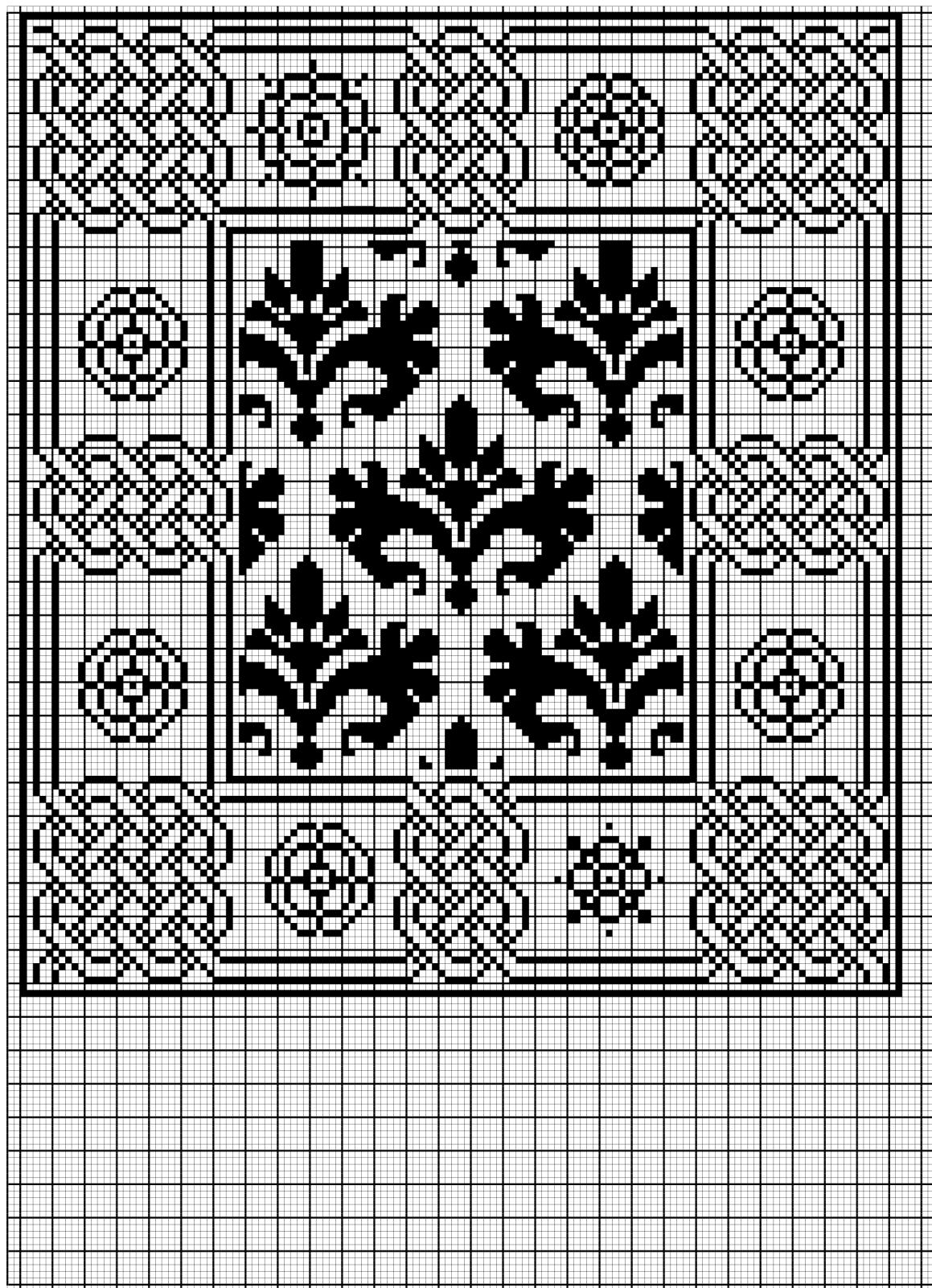


Plate 21

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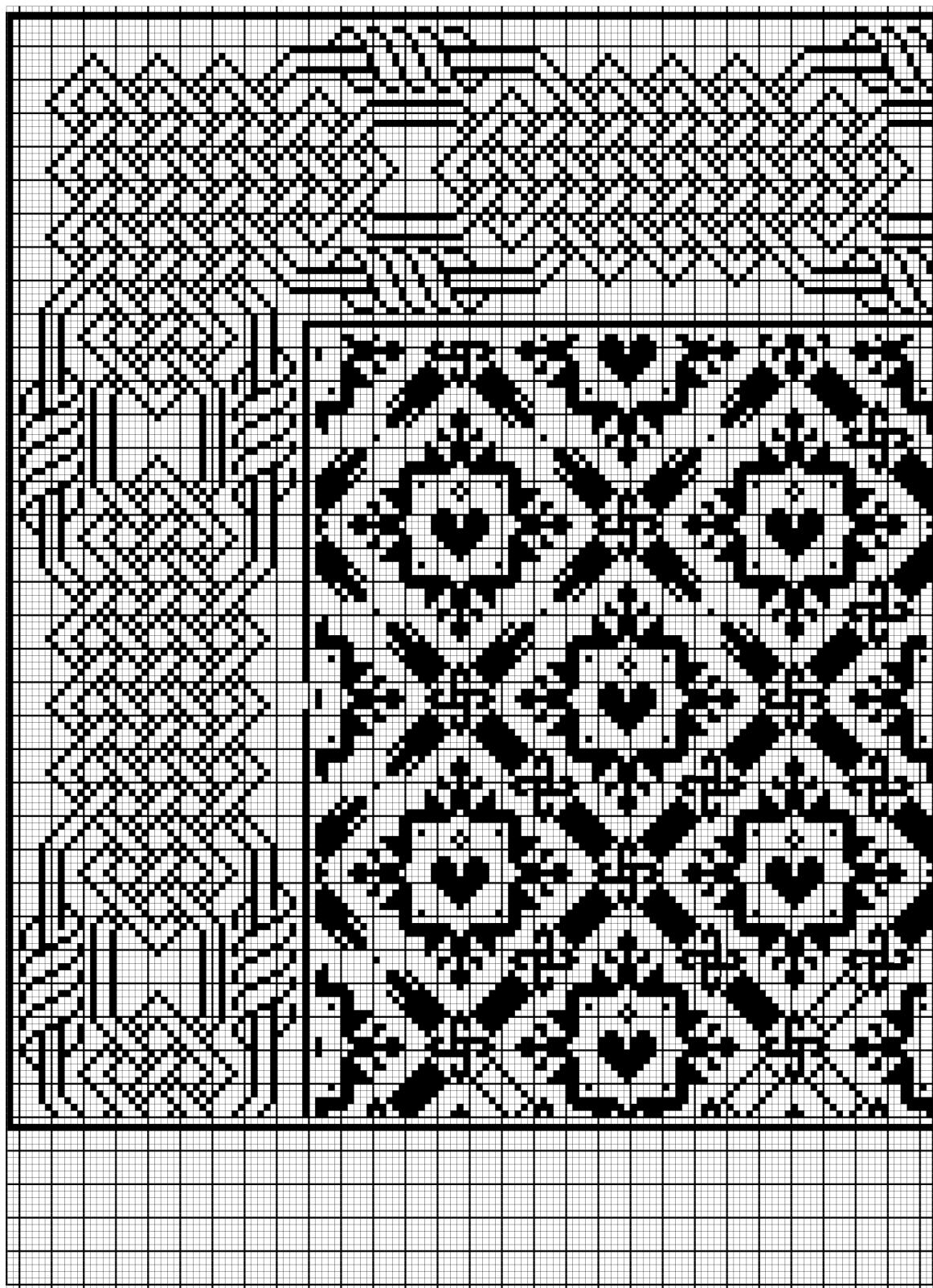


Plate 22

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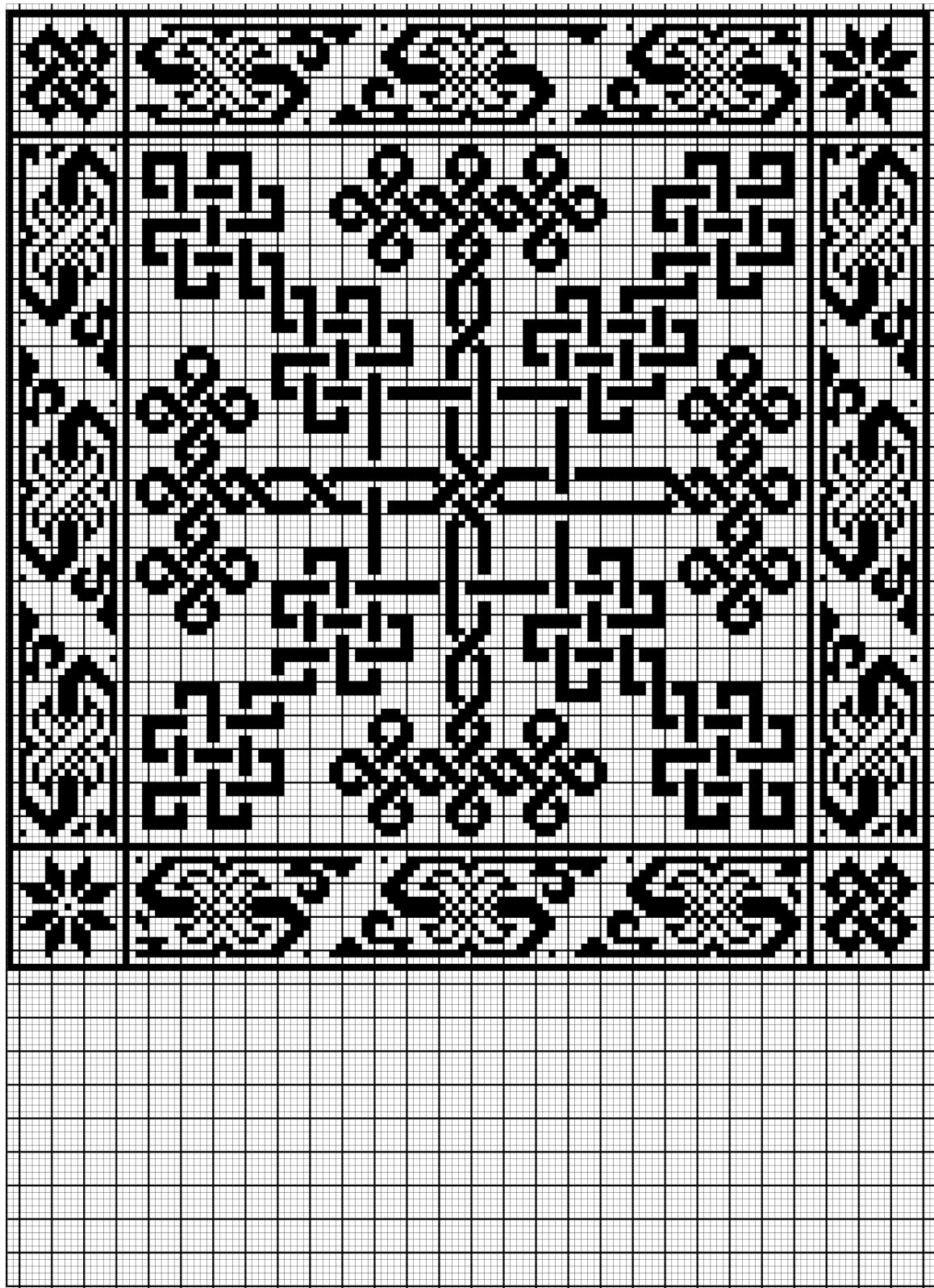


Plate 23

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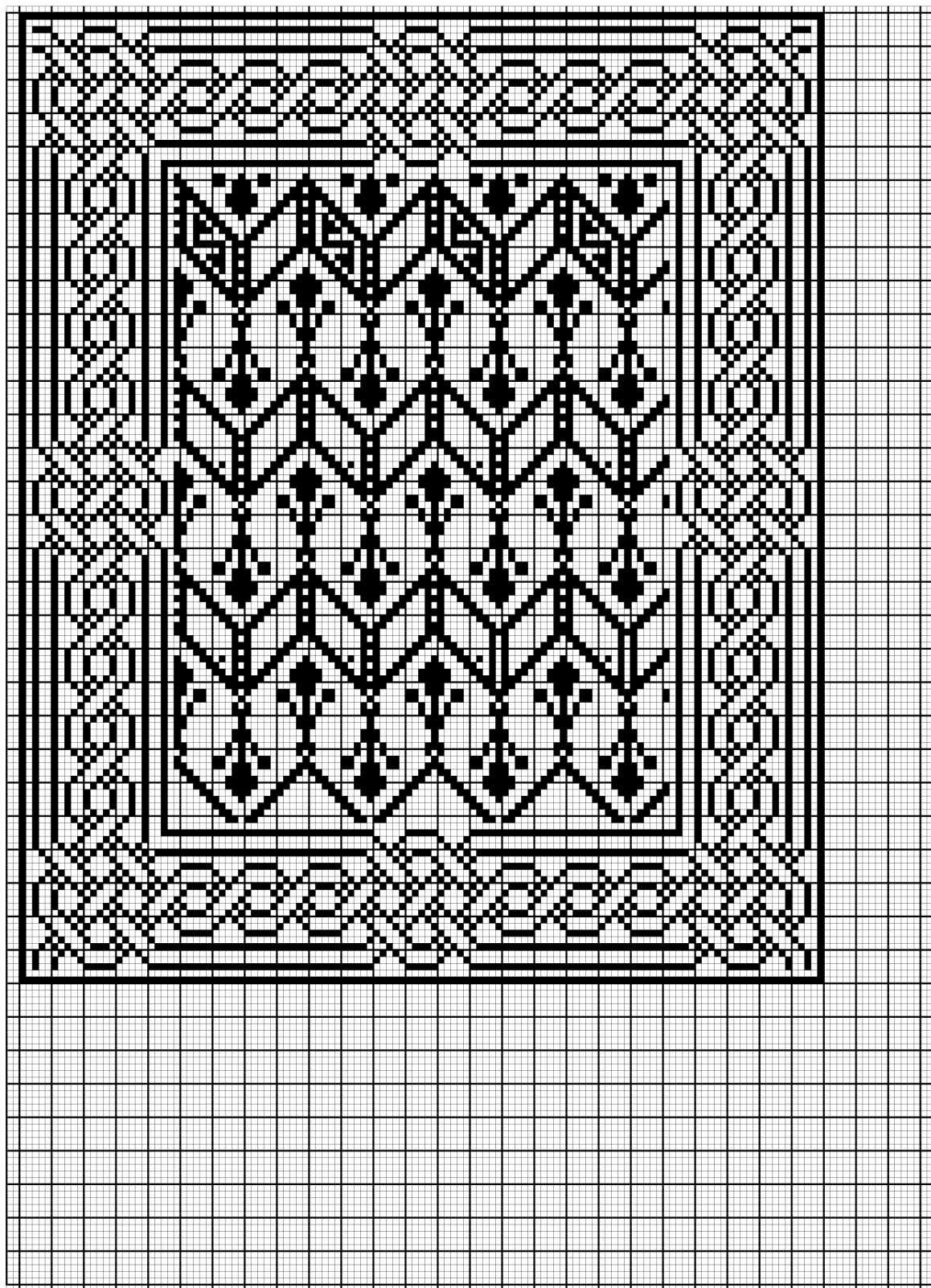


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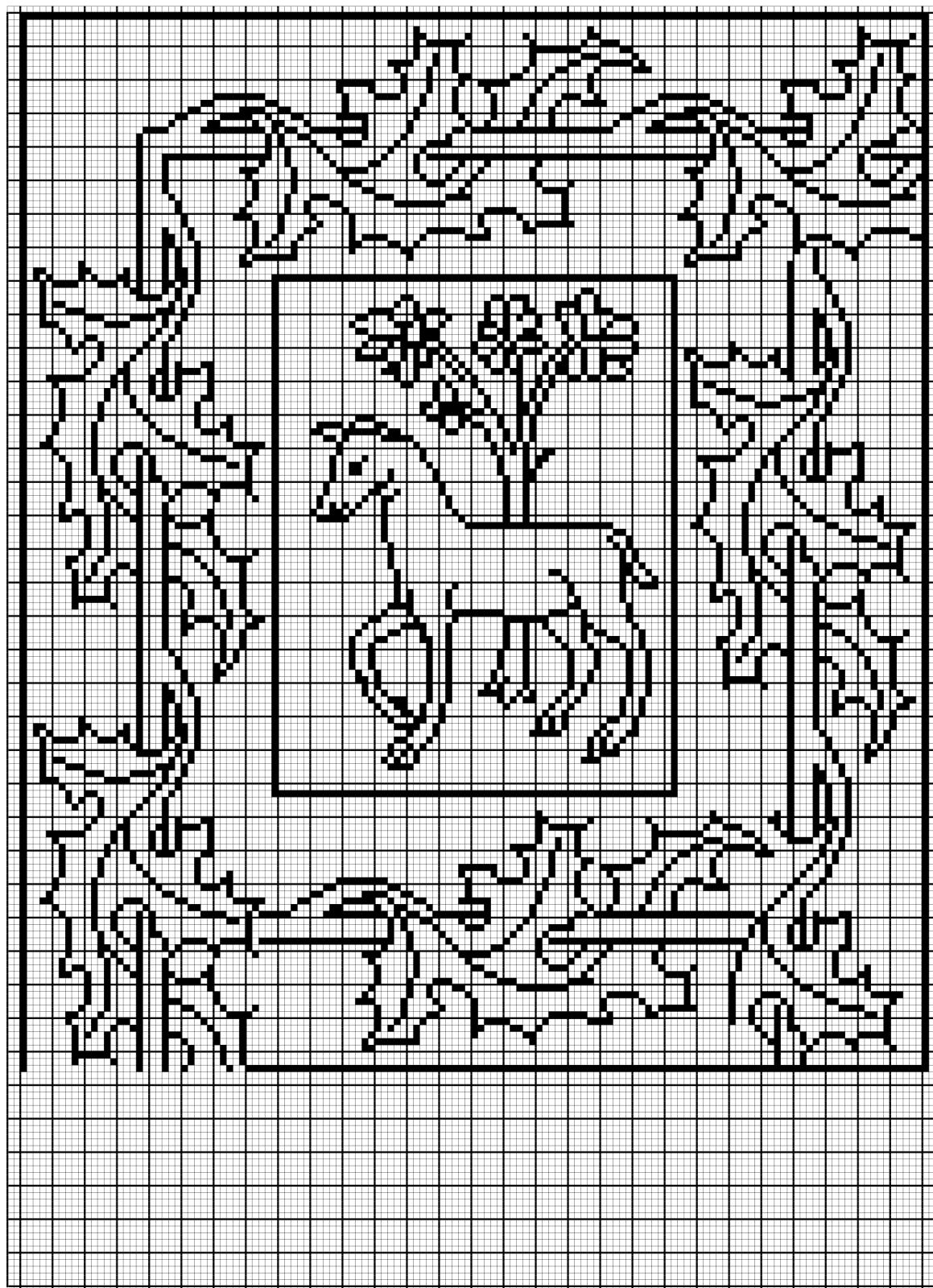


Plate 25

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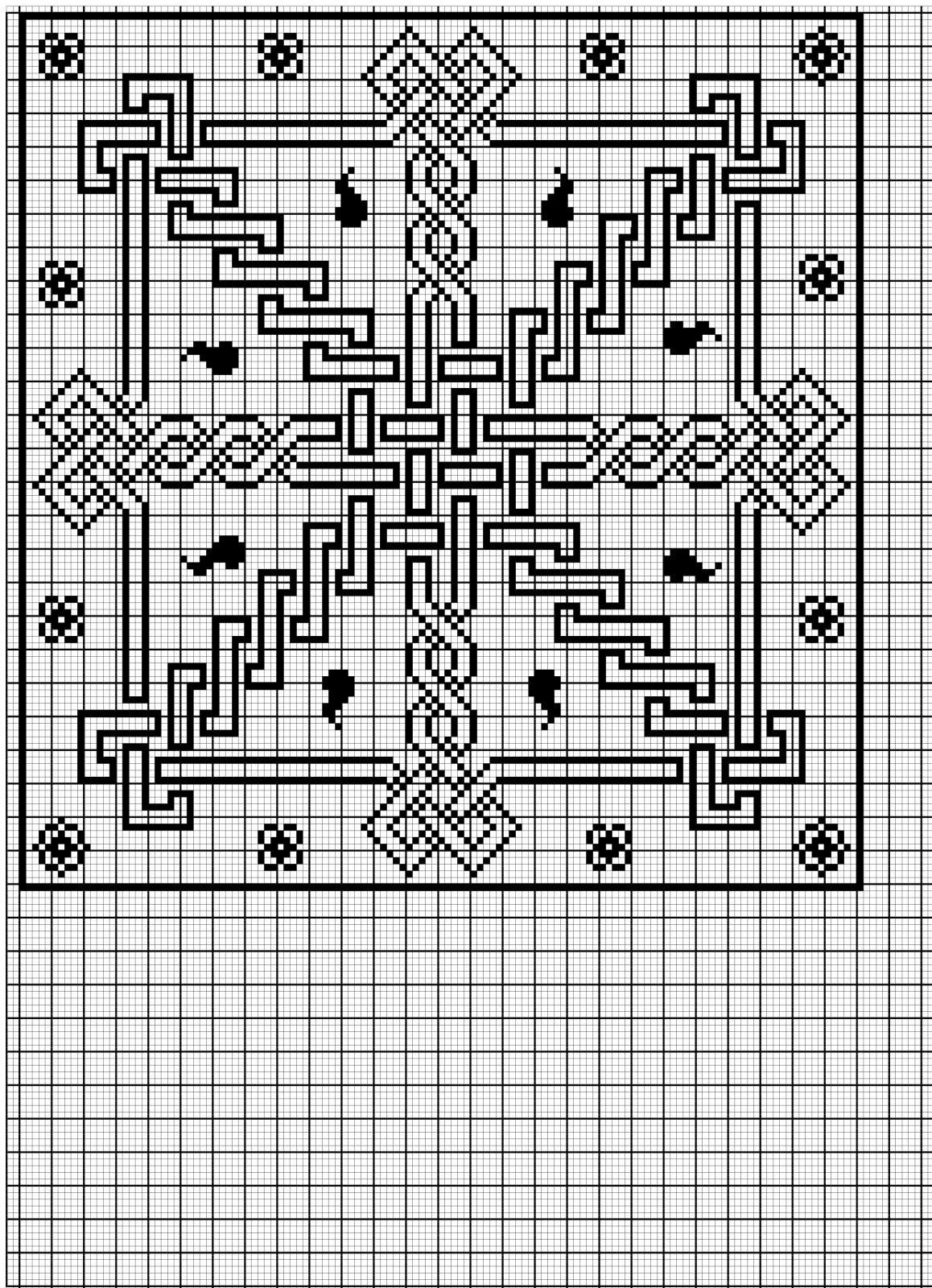


Plate 26

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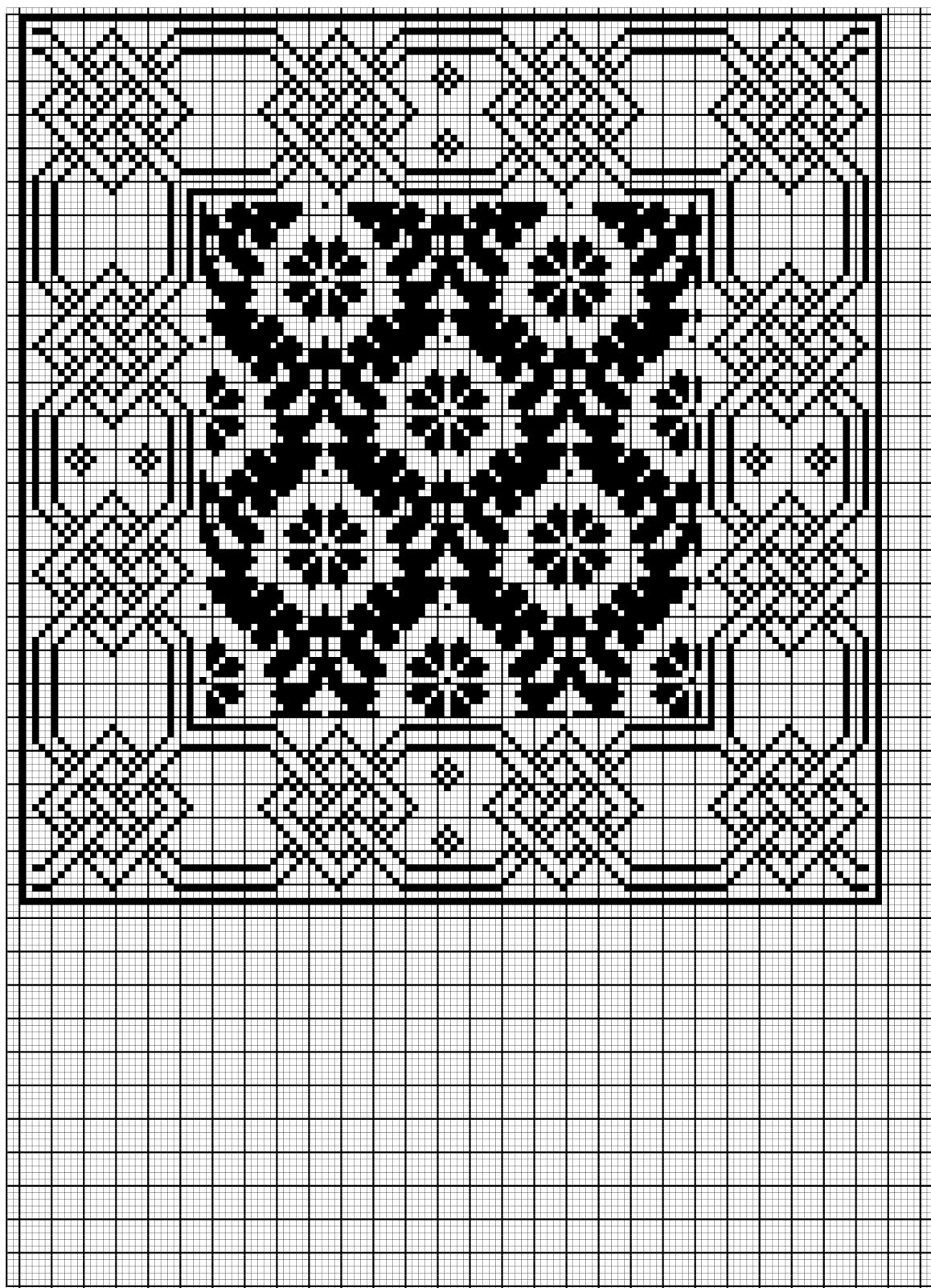


Plate 27

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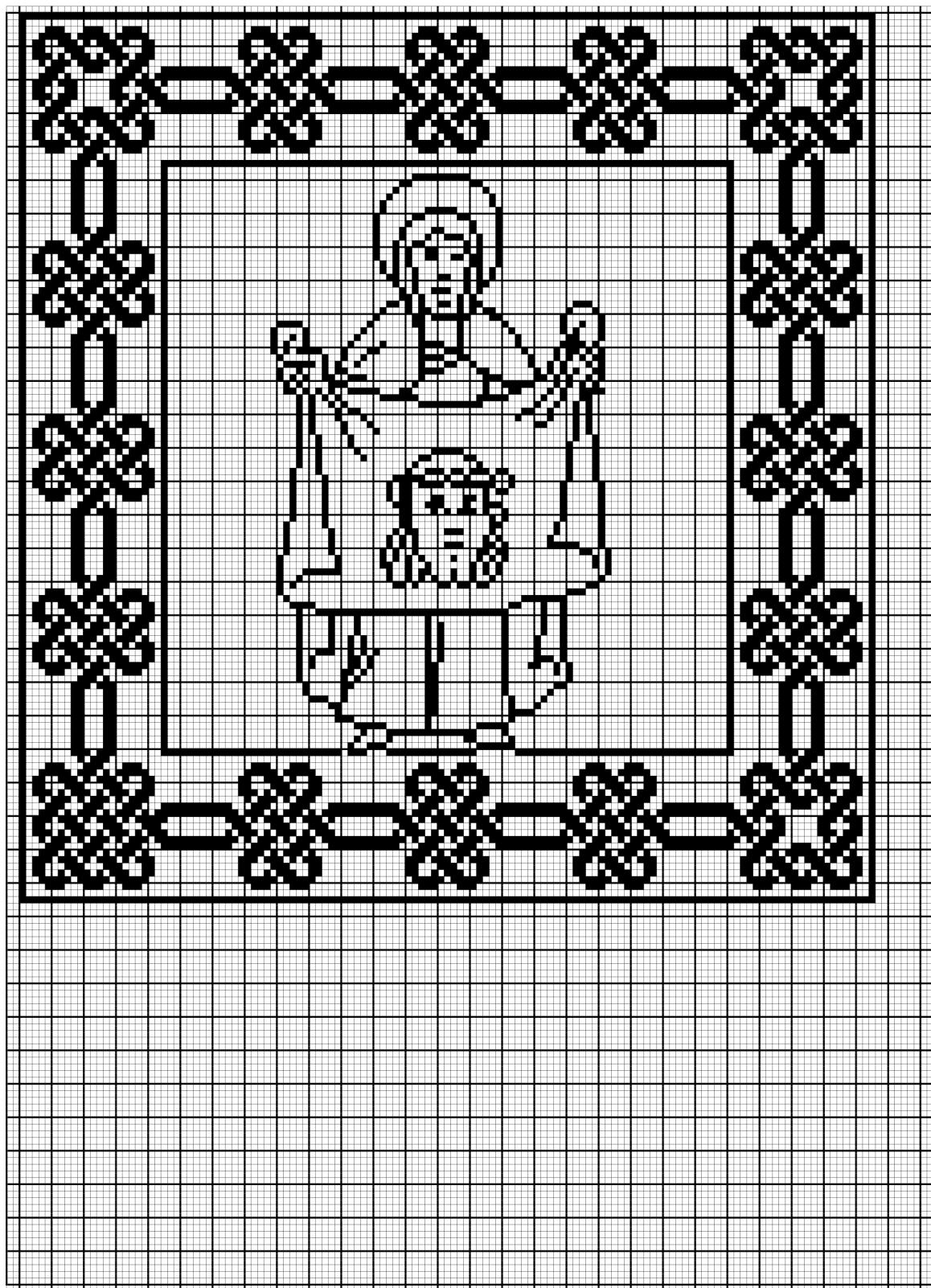


Plate 28

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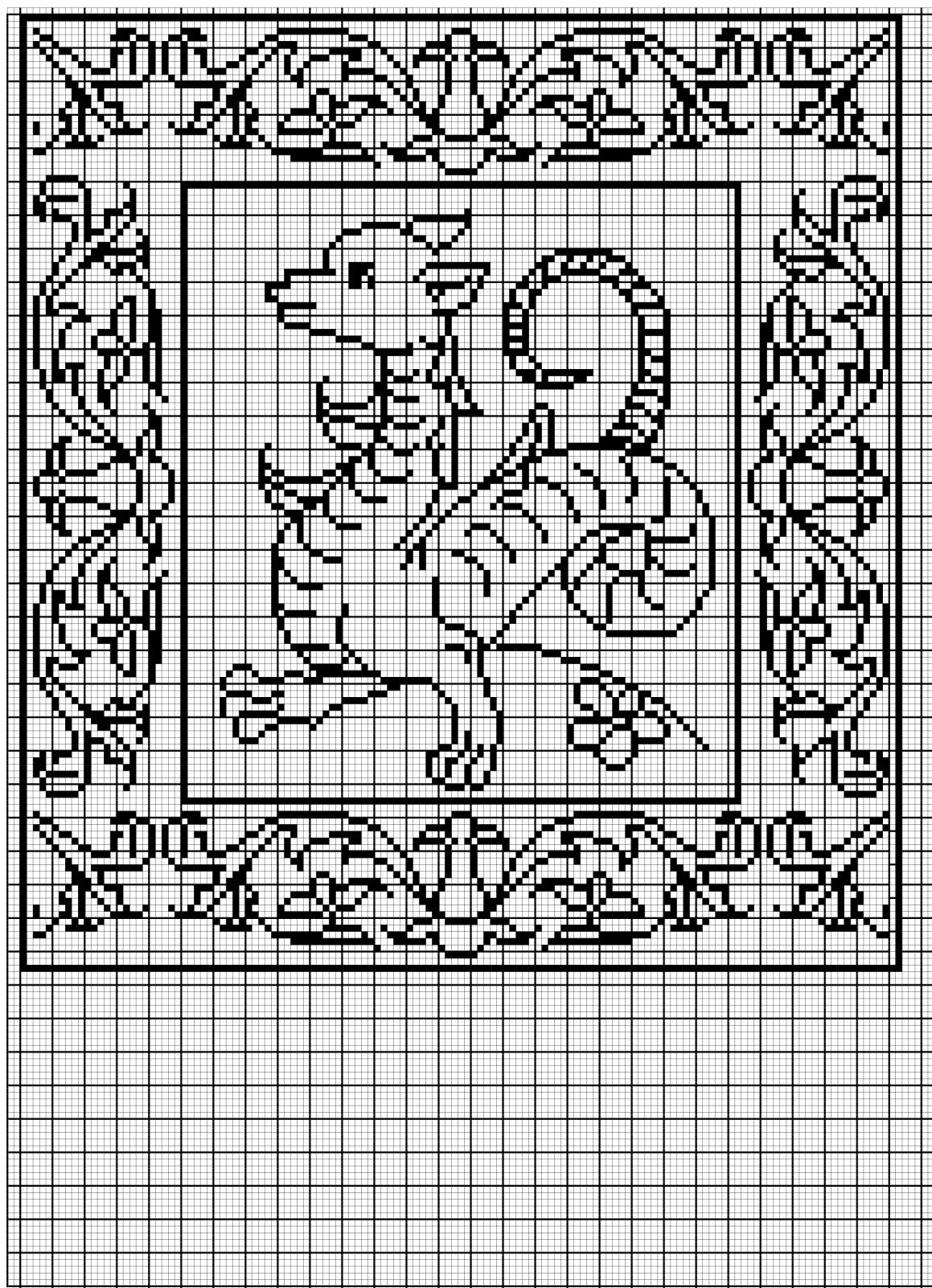


Plate 29

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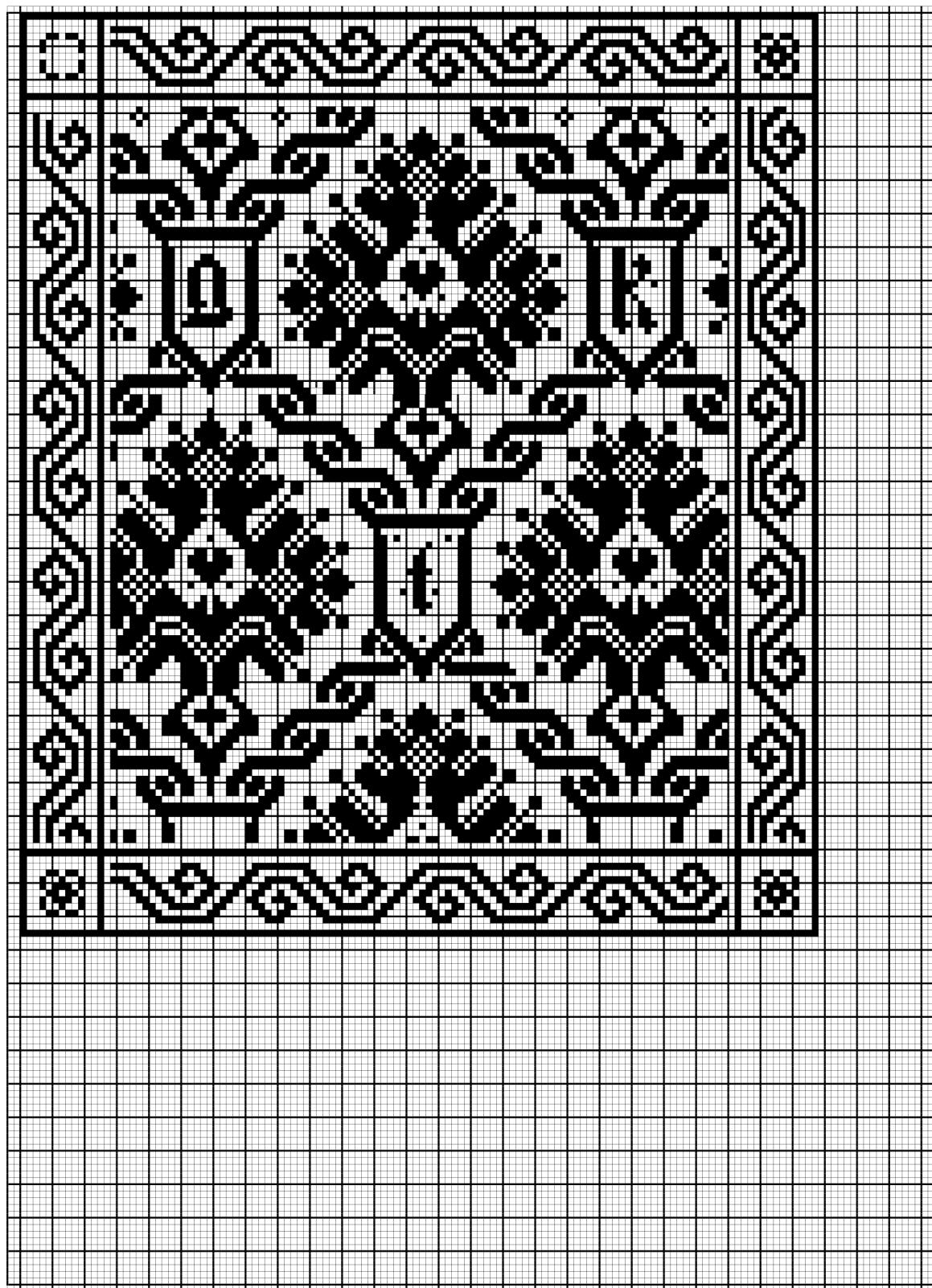


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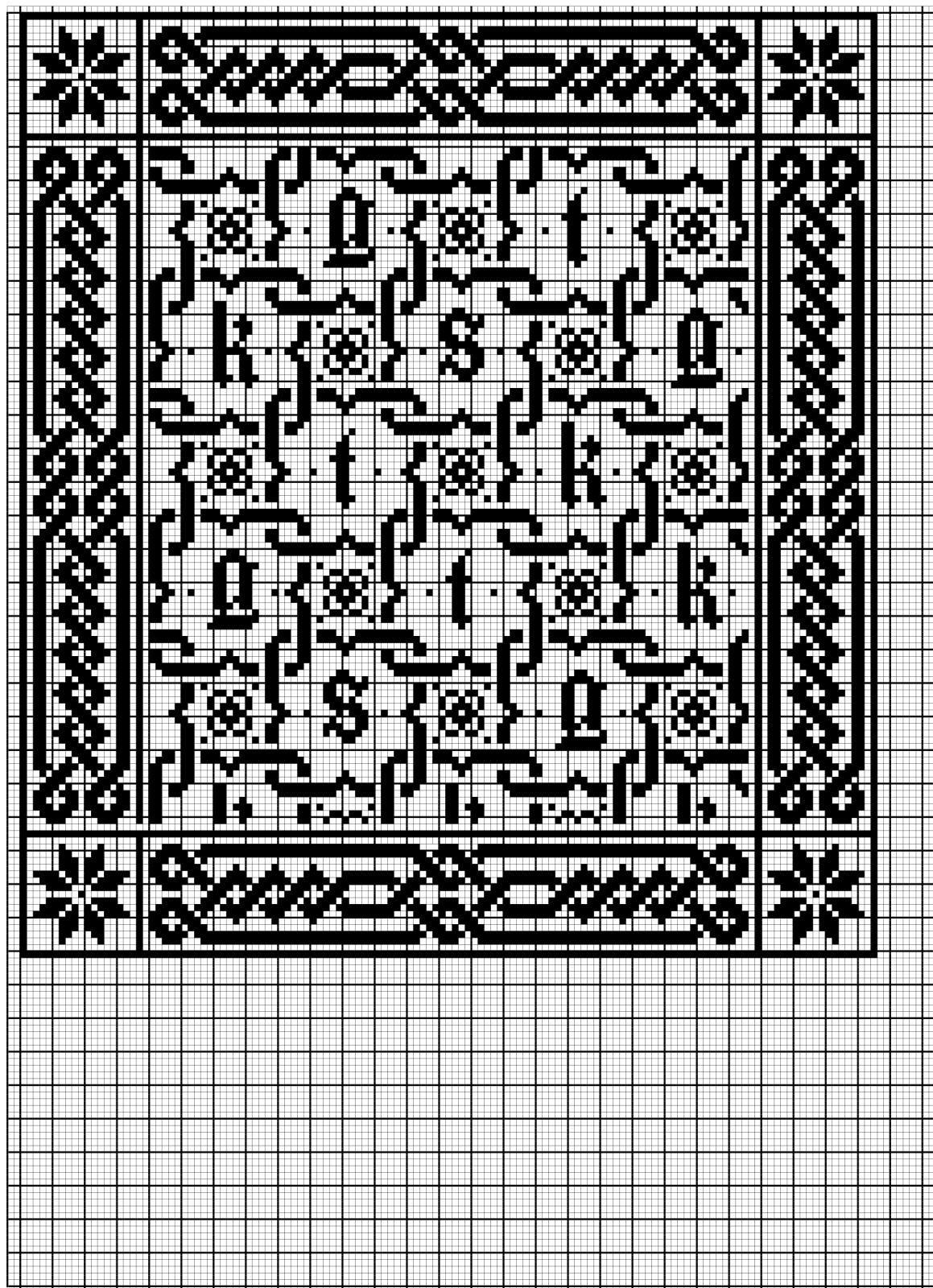


Plate 31

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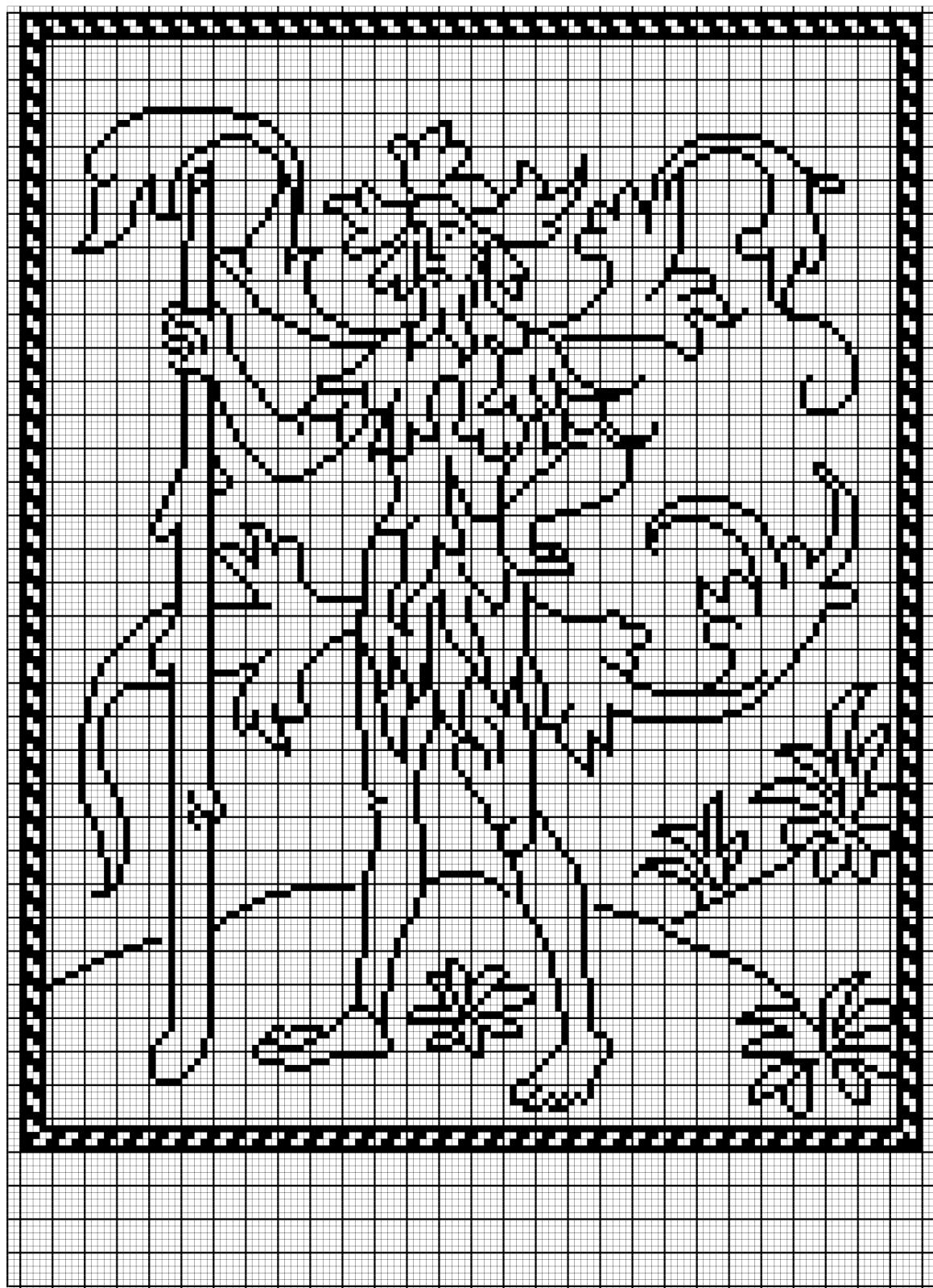


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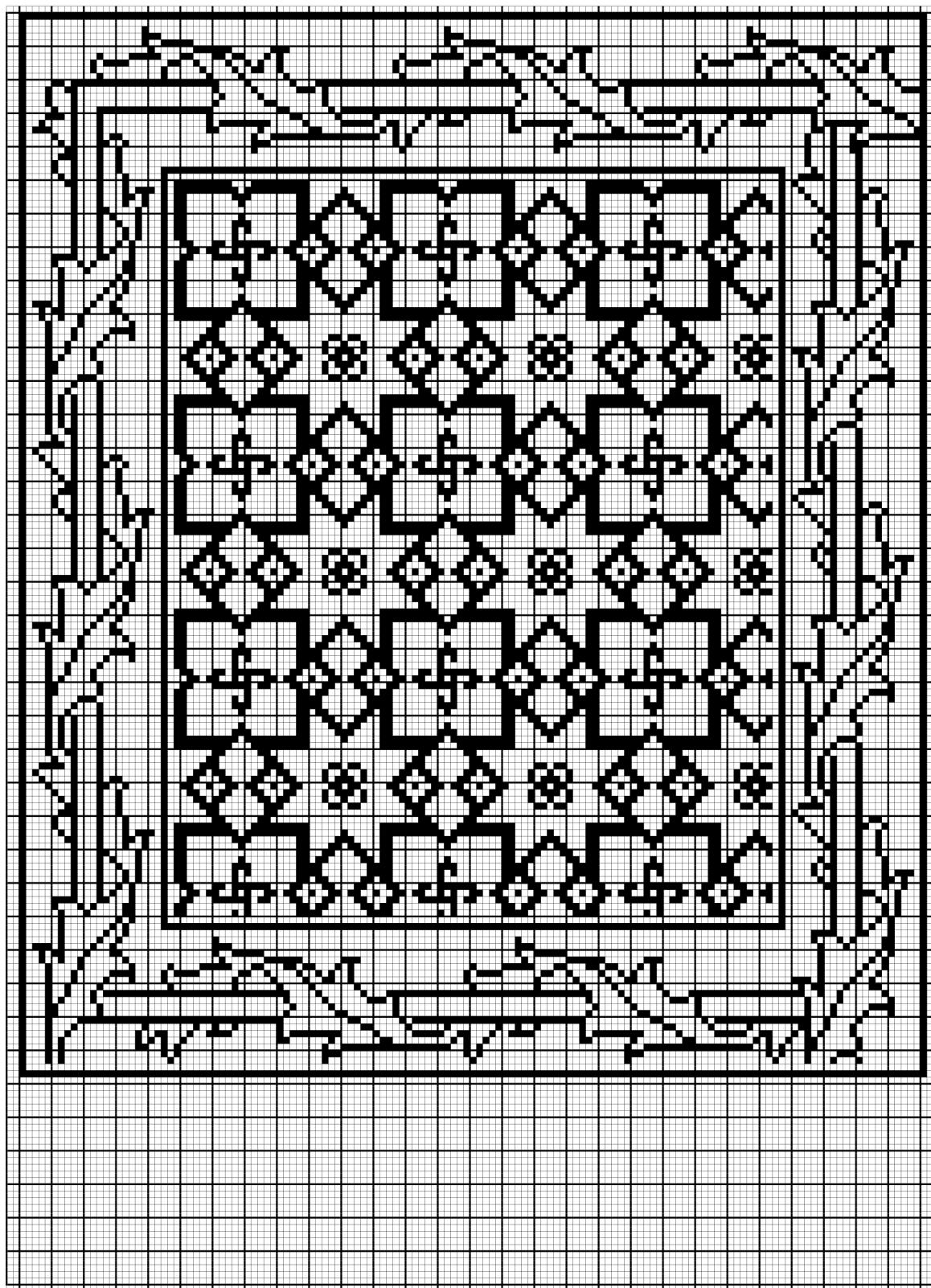


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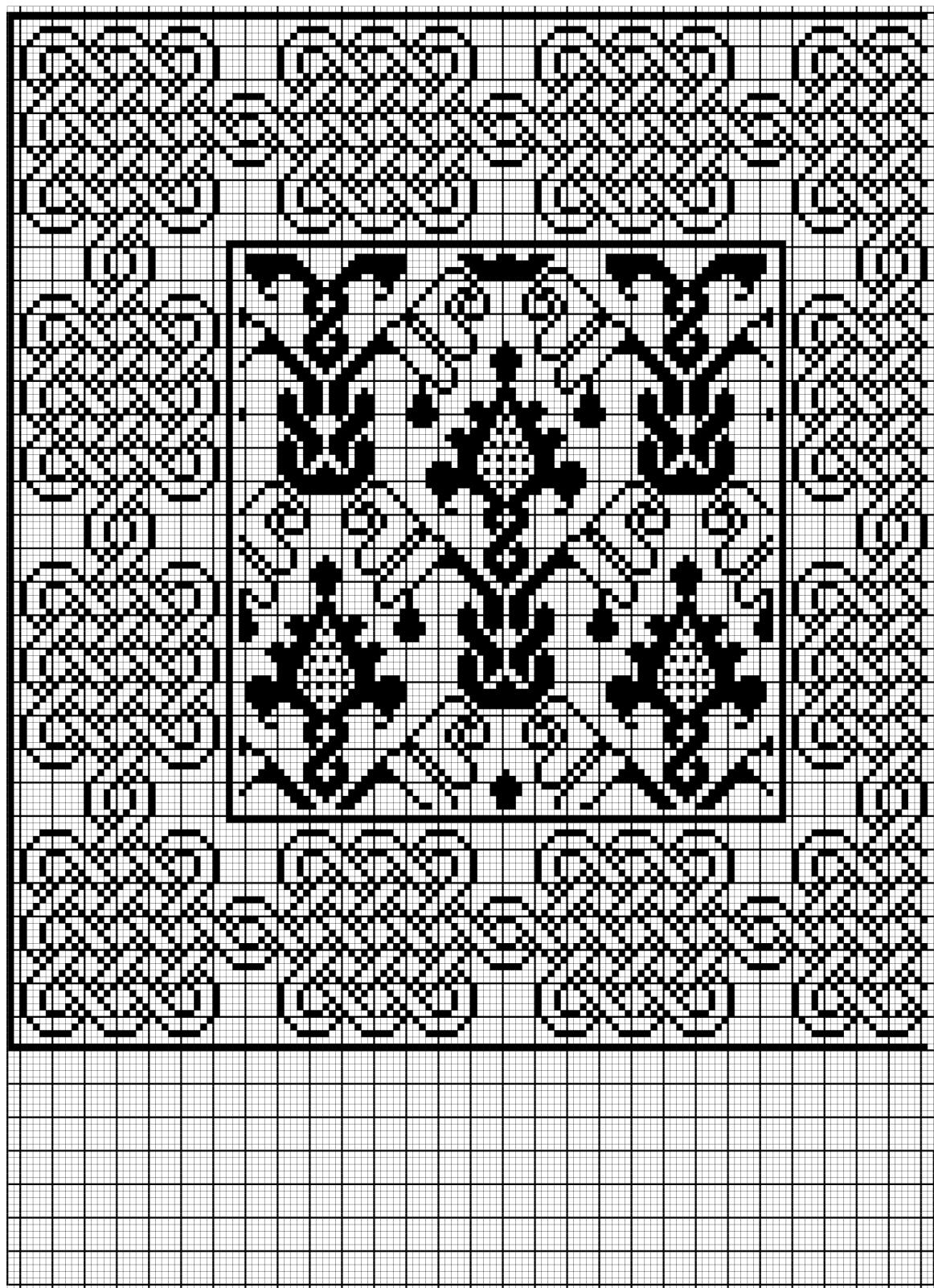


Plate 34

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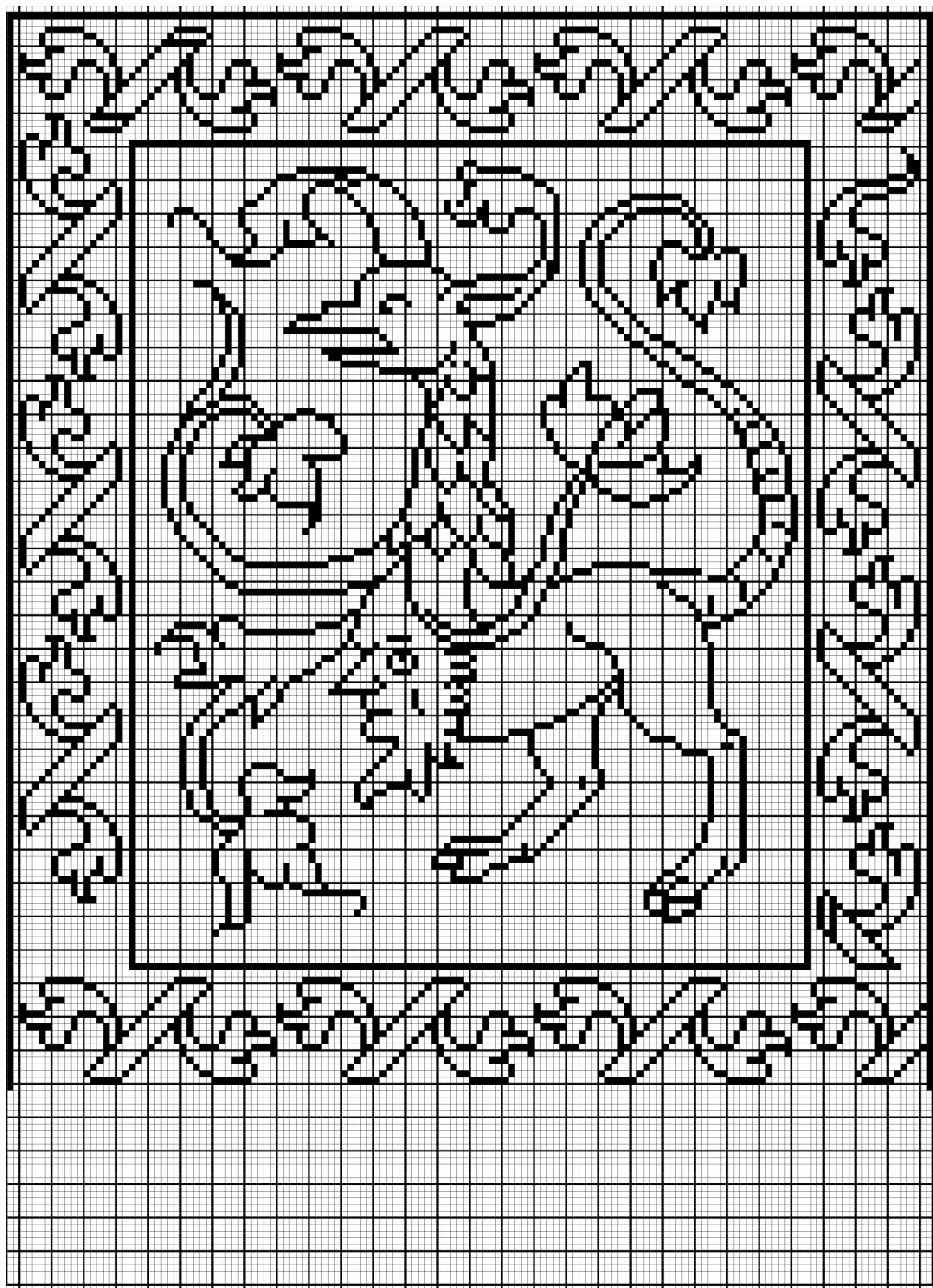


Plate 35

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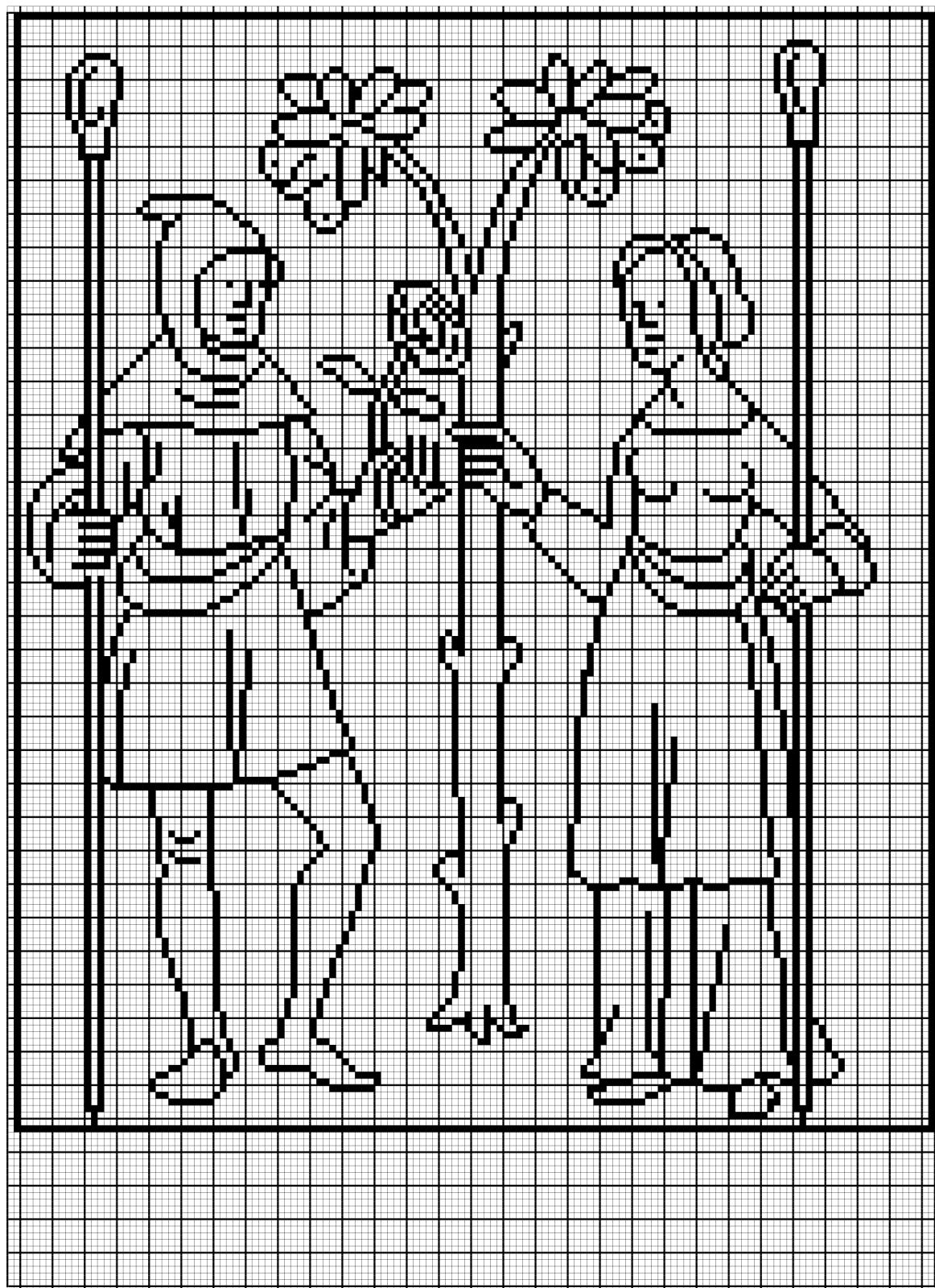


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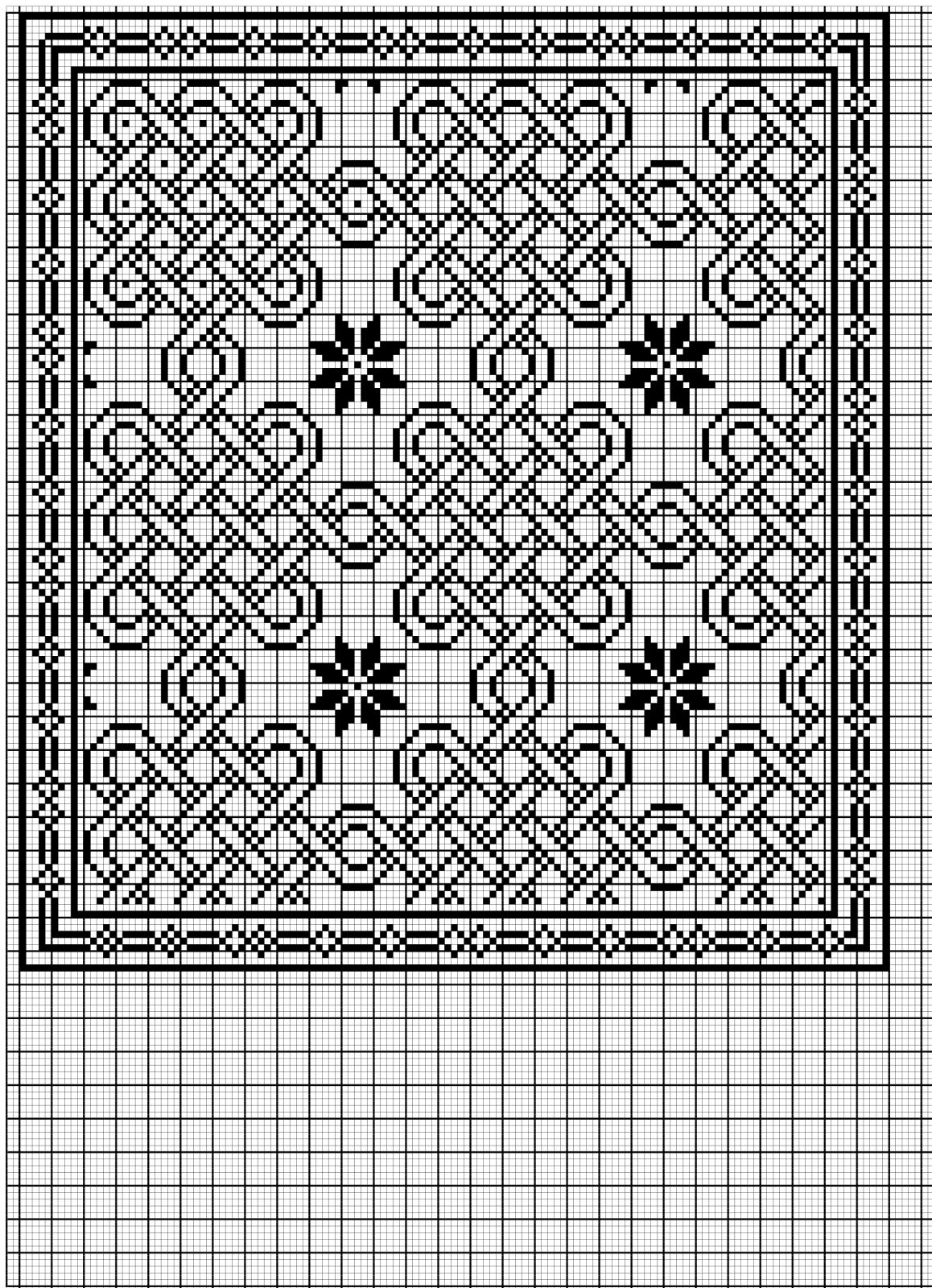


Plate 37

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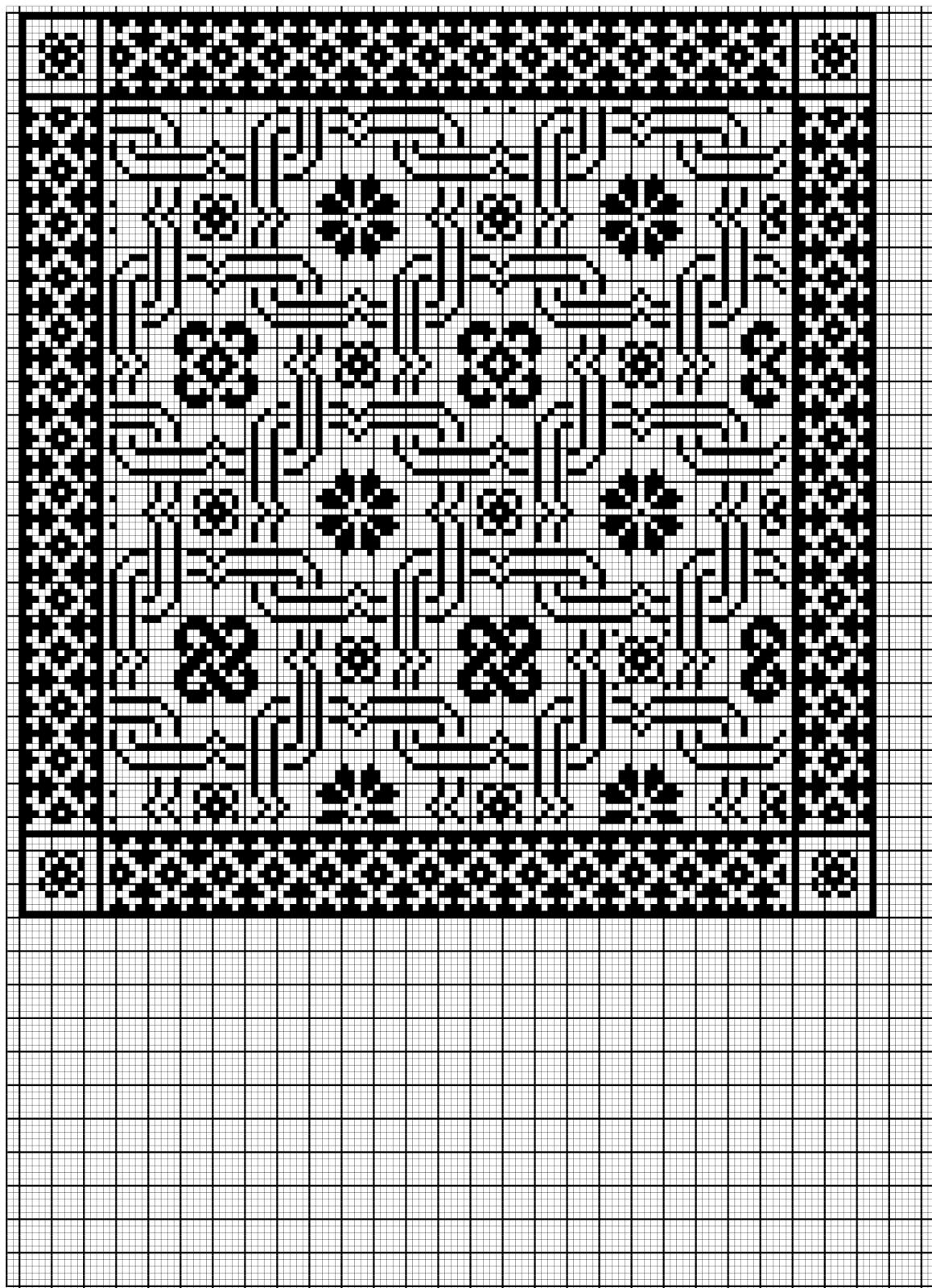


Plate 38

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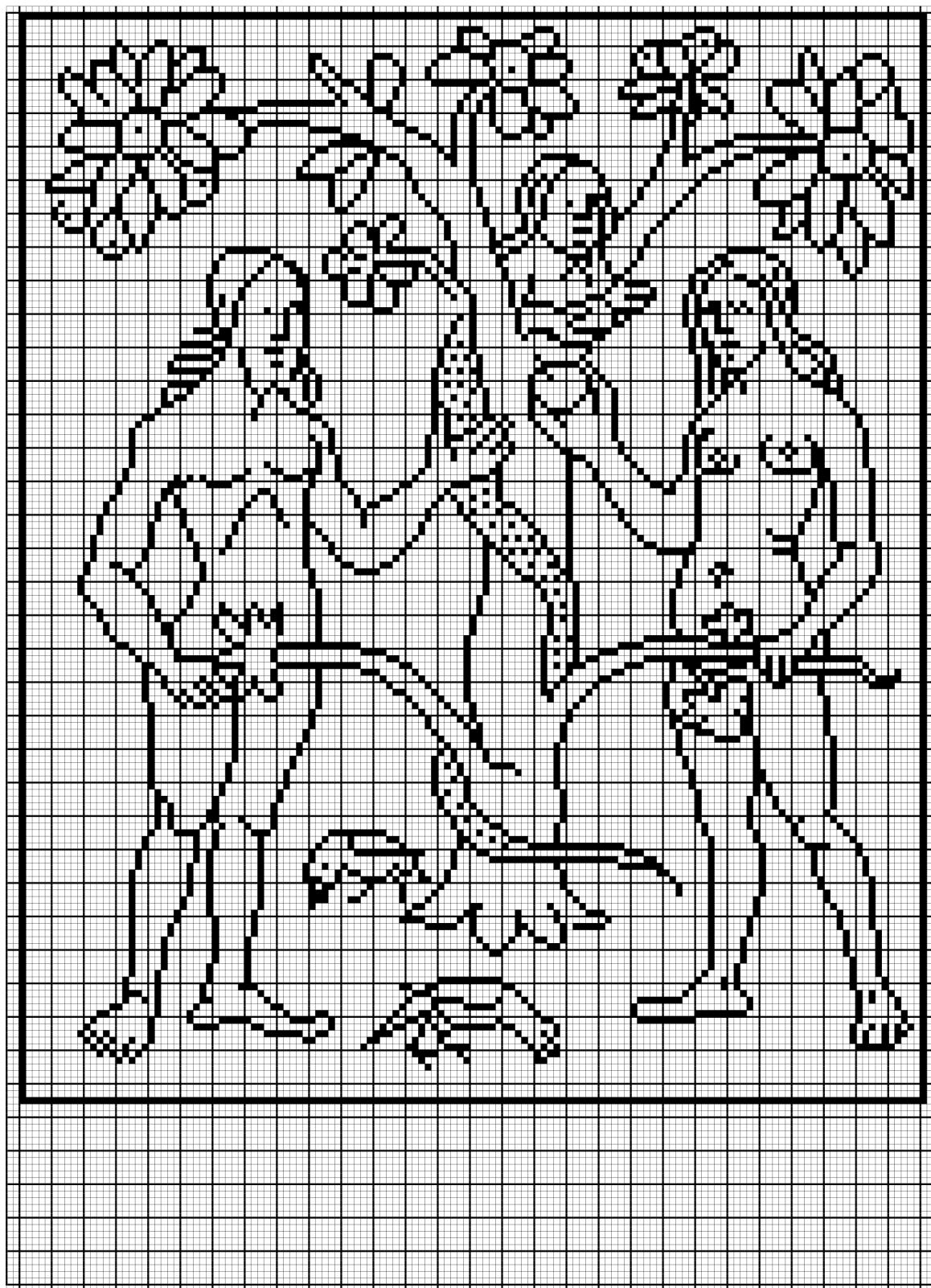


Plate 39

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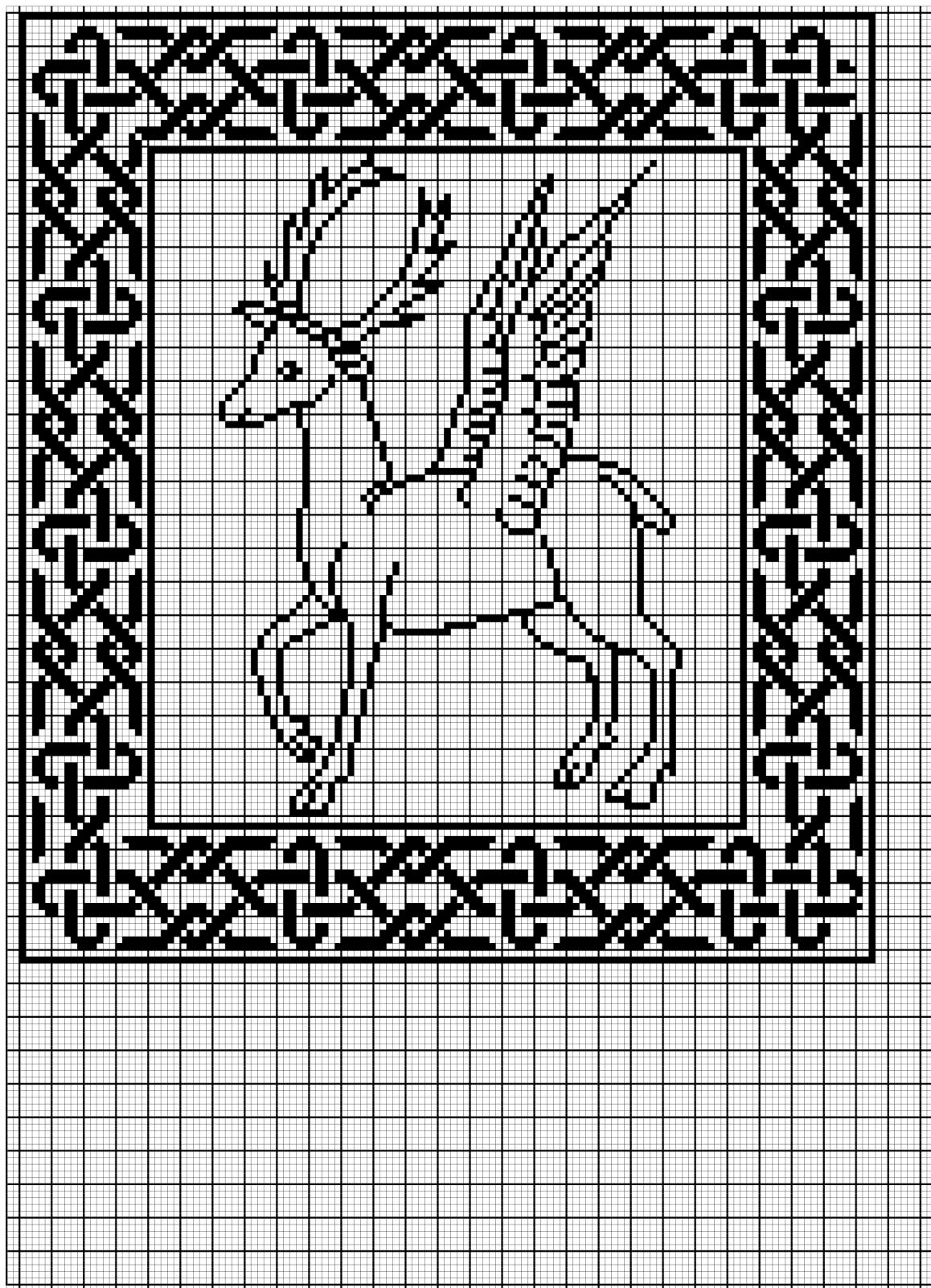


Plate 40

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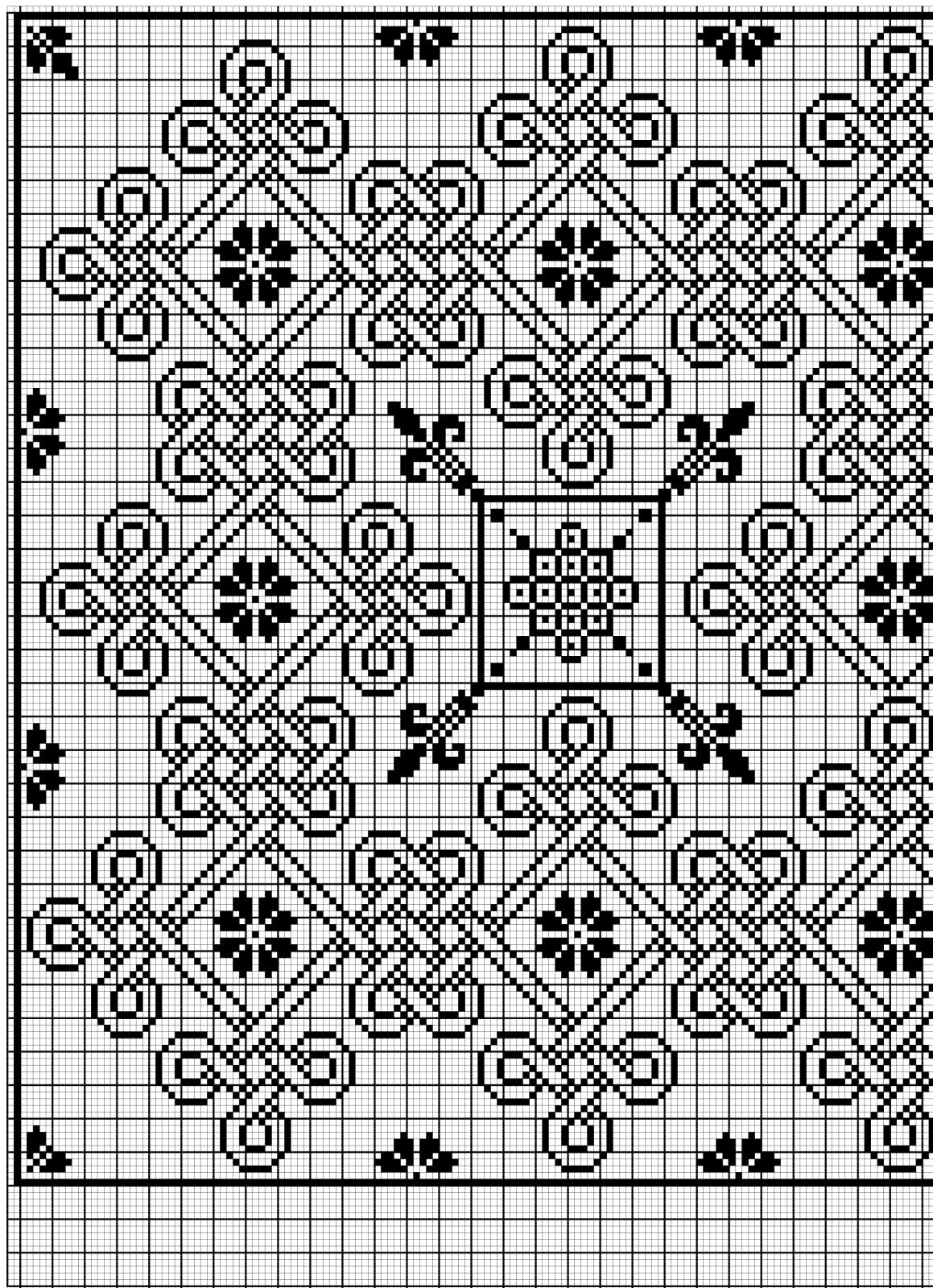
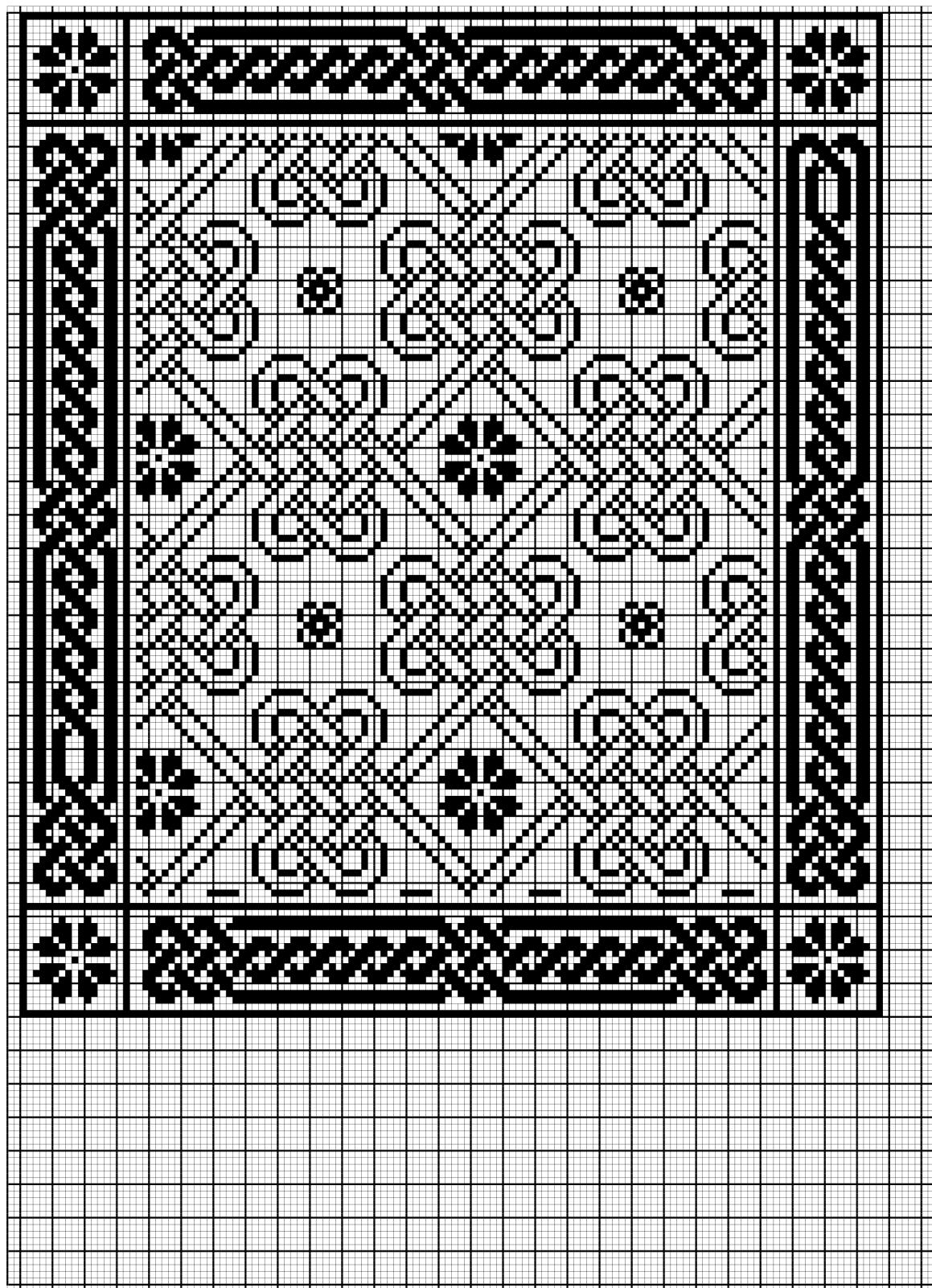
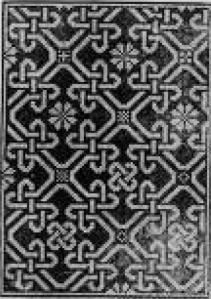
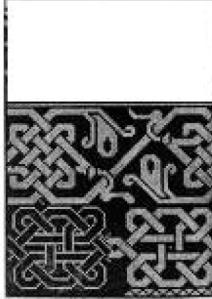
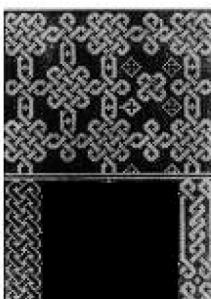
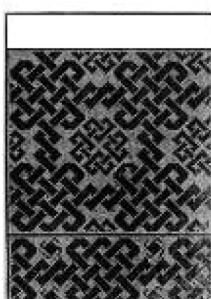
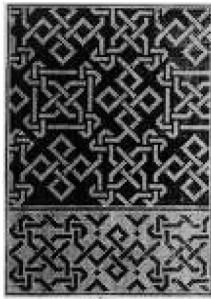


Plate 41

Plate 41



Comparison Thumbnail Pages of Other Publications.

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1546 |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 |
|  |  |  | |
| 1531, 1546 | 1531, 1532, 1546 | 1532, 1546 | |

Dominique da Sera's Embroidery Pattern Books

Sera1531CeLivreBNFbpt6k1073282k

*Ce livre est plaisant et utile gens qui besongnent de l'eguille... Corrige est nouvellement d'ung honneste homme par bon zelle son nom est Dominique Celle [Domenico da Sera]... mise il son intelligence l'amander subtillement, taille il est totalement par Jehan Cost. Lyon: par Jean Coste. **1531**.*

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k1073282k>

References: Baudrier, I, 105; Brunet, Supplément, I, 360; FB, 9603; Guetlingen, 3, 107, 1; Guilmard, p. 28; Lotz 69a; USTC 62822; Whiting, 241.

Bibliothèque nationale de France:

<http://catalogue.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/cb35284997q>

Terrebassee (Fr), Château

Sera1532LibbrettoMET

Libbretto nouellamete composto per maestro Domenico da Sera...lauorare di ogni sorte di punti. Lyon: Domenico da Sera. **1532**.

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/356952>

References: Adam, G 1213; FB 86229; Lotz 69b; Moreau, 2, 1793; USTC 130101

Libraries:

Berlin (De), Staatsbibliothek Preußischer Kulturbesitz --

Dallas, TX (USA), Southern Methodist Bridwell Library

Klosterneuburg (At), Stiftsbibliothek Laon (Fr), Bibliothèque municipale Suzanne Martinet --

Nantes (Fr), Bibliothèque municipale Paris (Fr), Bibliothèque nationale de France Warszawa (Pl), Biblioteka Narodowa

Sera1536Opera

Sera, Domenico da. (1536). *Opera nova composta.* Vinegia, Stampato in per Mario Pagan ..., M.D. XXXXVI.

Bibliothèque nationale de France, BnF, Paris, 75013 France

Sera1543Opera

Sera, Dominique [= Domenico da Celle]. *Opera noua, doue si insegnatutte le nobili et leggiadre giovanette di lavorara di ogni sorte, di punti, cusire, reccamere.* Vinet: M. Pagan et G. da Fontaneto di Monferrata. **1543**

Libraries:

National Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum

Sera1546OperaHARVARD_photo

Opera noua composta per Domenico da Sera detto il Franciosino: Doue si insegnatutte le nobili leggiadre giovanette di lavorare di ogni sorte di puti: Cusire: Recamare, jar tutte qlle belle opere: Che si appartengono alle virtuose fanciulle quarsi dilettano di far co le sue mani alcuna gentilezza anchora molto vtilegli tessadri che sogliono lavorare di seta.

Vinegia: Matio Pagan sta in frezeria Gulielmo da Fontaneto di Monferrato. **1546**.

Harvard University, Houghton Library:

<https://archive.org/details/Sera1546OperaHARVARDPrintPhotos>

Sera1546_1879OperaNYPL

*Opera nova composta per Domenico da Sera detto il Franciosino: dove si insegnatutte le nobili leggiadre giovanette di lavorare di ogni sorte di pūti: cusire, recamare, far tutte qlle belle opere: che si appartengono alle virtuose fanciulle: e qua si dilettano di far cō le sue mani alcuna gentilezza: e anchora molto vtilegli tessadri, che sogliono lavorare di seta..... Stampato in Venegia per Matio Pagan. Venegia / [Venezia]: Matio Pagan / [Fernando Ongania]. **1546 / 1879**.*

Libraries:

British Library

The British Library, St. Pancras

University of Chicago

University of Chicago Library

The Field Museum Library

New York Public Library System
Dartmouth Library
National Art Library, Victoria and Albert
Museum
New York Public Library:
https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/00869309_3

Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN
Opera nova composta per Domenico da Sera detto il Franciosino: dove si insegnatutte le nobilileggiadre giovanette di lavorare di ogni sorte di pūti: cusire, recamare, far tutte q̄lle belle opere: che si appartengono alle virtuose fanciulle: e qua si dilettano di far cō le sue mani alcuna gentilezza: e anchora molto vtilegli tessadri, che sogliono lauorare di seta..... (Flowers of the Needle, 4). Stampato in Venegia per Matio Pagan. Venegia / [Venezia]: Matio Pagan / [Fernando Ongania] / Flowers of the Needle. **1546 / 1879 / 2012.**
<http://flowersoftheneedle.com/FoTN-Vol4.pdf>

Sera1563Fior
[Sera, Domenico da]. *Fior di virtu libro novo da cvsire nelquale si contengono molti, diuersi sorti di fogliami del q[ua]le ogni ge[n]til, virtuosa madonna se ne potrà seruire, in far ponti asili, ponti crvtiati, ponti Intrezola, po[n]ti Instiora, tirar in Opera, Guchiar Tesser è molt'altri ponti comeloro piacerà.* S. l. [Venezia]: s. n. [Matteo Pagano]. **1563.**
References: EDIT 16: 77251 * USTC 764850
Libraries:
Paris (Fr), Bibliothèque Sainte Geneviève
Parma (It), Biblioteca Palatina
Selected pages redrawn from Pagano's 1563 *Fior di Virtu* and 1568 *Trionfo di virtu* as Plates 31-50 in *Original-Stickmuster der Renaissance*
Westsachsischen Hochschule Zwickau:
<http://digital.slub-dresden.de/id448970600>

Sera1583Livre [USTC: no known surviving copy]
Le livre de lingerie. Paris: Chez Hierosme de Marnef. **1583**

References: Brunet 5, 300; Cavellat 418; du Verdier pp. z1v, 266; FB 47756; USTC 75127

Sera1584LibroNovo
Libro novo, Chiamato Fior di Virtu. Qual insegna cusir ogni virtuosissima giovine che si dilettair aparare cioe Ponti Tagliati. Venedig: Giacomo Gedini. **1584**

Sera1584LivreBNFbtv1b8613384g
Le livre de lingerie, compose par maistre Dominique de Sera, italien, enseignant le noble et gentil art de l'esguille, pour besongner en tous point: utileprofitable à toutes dames & damoyselles, pour passer le tempseviter oysiveté. Nouvellement augmenté, enrichi de plusieurs excelents & divers patrons, tant du point coupé, raiseau, que passement, de l'invention de M. Jean Cousin, peintre à Paris: Chez Hierosme de Marnef, la Veufve de Guillaume Cavellat, au mont S. Hilaire l'enseigne du Pelican. 1584

References: Cavellat no. 429; FB 47757; USTC 21222
Libraries: Paris (Fr), Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal
Bibliothèque nationale de France:
<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8613384g>

Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

Le livre de lingerie: compose par Maistre Dominique De Sera, italien, enseignant le noble et gentil art de l'esguille, pour besongner en tous points, utile et profitable toutes Dames et Damoyselles, pour passer le temps, et eutier oysiuite. (Livres dentelles dessins d'ornements reproduits publiés par Amand-Durand sous la direction de Emmanuel Bocher, No. 4, No. 5). Paris : Hierosme de Marnef/ Emmanuel Bocher. **1584 / 1883.**

Libraries:
Bibliothek der Universität der Künste, Berlin,
British Library, St. Pancras
Cleveland Museum of Art

Columbia University in the City of New York
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz, Max-
Planck-Institut, Bibliothek
Metropolitan Museum of Art, Thomas J.
Watson Library
Schweizerisches Nationalmuseum,
Landesmuseum Zürich

Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Preußischer
Kulturbesitz, Kunstsbibliothek

Columbia:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=fQtFAAAAYAAJ>

Cleveland Museum of Art:

<https://archive.org/details/LivresDentelles4>

Cleveland Museum of Art:

<https://archive.org/details/LivresDentelles5>

Publication Dates

1531 [1515]:
Sera1531CeLivreBNFbpt6k1073282k

1532 : Sera1532LibbrettoMET

1536 : Sera1536Opera

1543 : Sera1543Opera

1546 : Sera1546OperaHARVARD_photo ;
Sera1546_1879OperaNYPL ;
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

1563 : Sera1563Fior

1583 : Sera1583Livre [USTC: No Known
Surviving Copy]

1584 : Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

1584 : Sera1584LibroNovo

1584 : Sera1584LivreBNFbtv1b8613384g

1879 : Sera1546_1879OperaNYPL ;
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

1883 : Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

2012 : Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

Named Persons

Amand-Durand, Charles :
Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

Bocher, Emmanuel :
Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

Celle, Dominique da : see Sera, Domenico da

Coste, Jean :
Sera1531CeLivreBNFbpt6k1073282k

Cousin, Jean :
Sera1584LivreBNFbtv1b8613384g

Fontaneto di Monferrato, Gulielmo da :
Sera1543Opera :
Sera1546OperaHARVARD_print_photo

Gedini, Giacomo : Sera1584LibroNovo

Goodwyn, Kathryn :
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

Marnef, Hierosme de : Sera1583Livre ;
Sera1584LivreBNFbtv1b8613384g ;

Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

Ongania, Ferdinando :
Sera1546_1879OperaNYPL ;
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

Pagano, Matheo : Sera1543Opera ;
Sera1546OperaHARVARD_print_photo ;
Sera1546_1879OperaNYPL ;
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN ;
Sera1563Fior

Sera, Domenico da [= Dominique da Celle]
Sera1531CeLivreBNFbpt6k1073282k ;
Sera1532LibbrettoMET ;
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN ;
Sera1546OperaHARVARD_photo
Sera1563Fior
Sera1583Livre
Sera1584LivreBNFbtv1b8613384g
Sera1543Opera
Sera1584LibroNovo

Reprint Series Titles

Flowers of the Needle :
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

Livres dentelles dessins d'ornements
reproduits publiés, No. 4, No. 5 :
Sera1584_1883LivreCMApart1 ;
Sera1584_1887LivreCMApart2

Raccolta di Opere Antiche sui Disegni dei
Merletti di Venezia, No. 8 :
Sera1546_1879_2012OperaFOTN

Lotz numbers (1969)

69a Celle. Ce livre est plaisant et uyilr. Lyon: Jehan Coste 1531.
Berlin, Kunstabibl; Paris, Ecole des Beaux-Arts.

69b. Sera. Libbretto...dove di appara... Lyon. 1532.
Catalogue de livres rares et precieux ... provenant da la bibliotheque de Monsioue, Ch. – L. Fiere... Paris: Albert Besombes 1933, Nr 176.

69c SERA- Le livre de lingerie. Paris: Jerosme dc Marnet 1383.

69d Sera. Le livre de lingerie. Paris: Hierosme de Marnef & la veuve de Guillaume Cavelatt 1584.

Paris, Bibl. De l'Arsenal

Faksimile – Ausgabe in: Livres aa dentelles et desines d'ornements reproduits et publiés par Amand-Durand sous la direction de Emmanuel Bocher. Paris, 1882

69e Sera. Opera nova. Venedig: Matio Pagan e Guielmo da Fontaneto di Monferrato 1543
London, V. and A. Museum

69f Sera. Opera nova. Venedig.: Matio Pegan e Gulielmo da fontaneto di Monferrato 1546
Faksimile – Ausgabe: Venedig: F ongania 1879

69g [Sera] Fior di virtu. [Venedig] 1563
Wein, Liechtensteinshe Bibl.

69h [SERA]. Libro novo, chiamoto fior di virtu. Vendig: Giacomo Gedini 1584.
In Venetia, appresso Giacomo Gedini in Frezzaria al segno della Fede, 1584
Nach: Catalogue de livres et estampes relatifs aux beaux-arts... provenant de la bibliotheque de feu M Hippolyte Destailleur, Paris 1895 Nr 1624.

Whiting numbers

365. Cousin, Jean. *Le livre de lingerie, compose par maistre Dominique de Sera, Italien, enseignant le noble et gen til art de l'esguille, pour besongner en tous points: vtile et profitable a toutes dames et damoyselles, pour passer le temps et euiter oysivete. Nouuellement augmente et enrichi de plusieurs excelents & diuers patrons, tant de point coupe, raiseau, que passement de l'invention de M. lean Covsin, Peintre a Paris. A Paris, chez Hierosme de Marnef & la veufue de Guillaume Cauellat, au mont S. Hilaire a, l'enseigne du Pelican, 1584, avec priuilege du Roy.*

667. Gedini, Giaeomo. *Libro novo, Chiamato Fior di Virtu. Qual insegn a cusir a ogni virtuosissima giovine che si diletta a imparare cioe Ponti Tagliati, ponti in stuora et ponti crosati et molti altri bellissimi lauori. In Venetia appresso Giaeomo Gedini in Frezzaria al segno delta Fede, MDLXXXIHT (1584).*

1624. Sera, Domenico da. *Libbretto novellamente coposto p. maestro Domenico da Sera detto il Franciosino : dove si appara et insegn a tutte le nobili et leggiadre giovanette di lavorare di ogni sorte di punti : Cusire, reccamare, et ultimatamente far tutte qlle vaghe et belle opere : che si appartengono alle virtuose et lode voli fanciulle : et quai se diletta no di far con le sue mani alcuna gentilezza : et oltre dicio il detto libretto e molto utile a gli tessadri ; che sogliono lavorare di seta. Stampato in Leone, MD et XXXII, del mese Aprile.*

1625. Sera, D. de. *Le livre de Lingerie, compose par Maistre Dominique de Sera, Italien, enseignant le noble & gentil art de l'esguille, pour besong- ner en tous points: utile & profitable a toutes Dames & Damoyselles, pour passer le temps, & euiter oysivete. Nouuellement augmente, & enrichi,*

de plusieurs excelents & divers patrons, tant du point coupe, raiseau, que passement, de l'invention de M. Jean Cousin, Peintre a Paris. A Paris. Chez Hierosme de Marnef, & la veufue de Guillaume Cauellat, au mont S. Hilaire a l'enseigne du Pelican. 1584.

1626. Sera, D de. *Opera nouva, doue si insegn a tutte le nobili et leggiadre giovanette di lavorara di ogni sorte, di punti, cusire, reccamere, . . . Vinet. M. Pagan et Gr. da Fontaneto di Monferrta, 1543. 4°. Title and 38 cuts.*

1627. Sera, D. de. *Opera nova, etc. 1543. Ongania Reproduction of No. 1626.*

1628. Sera, Domenico da. *Fede Opera Noua composta per Domenica da Sera, detto il Franciosino : dove si insegn a tutte le nobili et leggiadre gio- uanette di lauorare di ogni sorte di punti : Cusire, Recamare, et far tutte qlle belle opere, che si appartengono alle virtuose fanciulle: e qual si di- lettano di far co le sue main alcuna gentilezza, et canchora, molto vtile a gli tessadri che fogliono lauorara di seta, stampato in Venegia per Matio Pagan, sta in Fregeria e Oulielmo da Fontaneto di Monferrato MDXXXXVI.*

1629. Sera, Domenico, da. *Opera noua composta per Domenico da Sera detto il Franciosino : doue si insegn a tutte le nobili & leggiadre giuanette di lauorare di ogni sorte di puti: Cusire: Recamare, & jar tutte qlle belle opere : che si appartengono alle virtuose fanciulle e quarsi dilettano di far co le sue mani alcuna gentilezza & e anchora molto vtile a gli tessadri che sogliono lavorare di seta. Stampato in Vinegia per Matio Pagan sta in frezeria e Gulielmo da Fontaneto di Monferrato. M.D.XXXXVI. Reprinted by Ongania in 1879.*

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<https://archive.org/details/cataloguesommair01bibl>

<https://archive.org/details/cataloguesommair02bibl>

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<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/bpt6k53085x>

EDIT16: National census of Italian 16th century editions, Istituto Centrale per il catalogo unico delle biblioteche italiane e per le informazioni bibliografiche – Area di attività per la bibliografia, la catalogazione e il censimento del libro antico. http://edit16.iccu.sbn.it/web_iccu/ihome.htm

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